Manitoba
Natural Resources

NORTH INTERLAKE
OVERVIEW PLAN
AND
INTERIM
MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

(1984)

Prepared by
Resource Allocation Working Group

R.D. Thomasson
Chairman

TECHNICAL REPORT 84-16

MANITOBA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

February 27, 1985

RE: NORTH INTERLAKE OVERVIEW PLAN AND INTERIM MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

This document describes the classification of Crown lands in the North Interlake planning area to various resource uses along with appropriate management guidelines. The plan and guidelines were made necessary by the increasing demand for land and resources in the area.

The plan has been reviewed and approved by the departmental executive. It constitutes the departmental position regarding long term planning and management of Crown land and resources within the plan area.

That portion of the plan area which lies south of Cedar Lake and Grand Rapids is within the Crown Land Classification Committee's (CLCC) area of operation. Since the CLCC is responsible for inter-departmental planning of Crown land this overview plan takes on the role of a discussion document which establishes the departmental position as an input to CLCC planning. In the balance of the area, i.e., north of Cedar Lake and Grand Rapids, this plan has full status. As such it stands on its own as an overall guide to departmental administration of Crown land and resources.

The plan and guidelines have been approved to facilitate improvement of administration of land and resources. It may, however, impinge on interests and responsibilities of other government departments and agencies. As a result it is open to amendments and other modifications as required.

Yours sincerely,

E. F. BOSSENMAIER
Director, Resource Allocation
and Planning Branch

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The plan area comprises land and water administered by the Department of Natural Resources in the Interlake north of the Local Government Districts of Grahamdale and Fisher, including the north basin of Lake Winnipeg and all of Cedar Lake. A small amount of land north of Cedar Lake and Lake Winnipeg is also included but the Local Government District of Grand Rapids is excluded. Lake Winnipegosis is not included in the plan area but portions of its shoreline are included. Total area of land and water approximates 33,000 sq km.

This is an overview plan that deals with land and resources from the general perspective. It is timely because it provides a planned and documented position for improved management and administrative responses to increasing public demands on this largely undeveloped area.

Allocation of land and water to a variety of uses is central to the plan. These uses are integrated with each other where possible and separated in space and time where integration is not possible. Allocation is accomplished through the dual vehicles of land use zones and land/resource use guidelines. Areas requiring detailed planning are identified as project areas. Terms of reference for planning of project areas are included.

Highlights of the plan include descriptions of resource issues and concerns, descriptions of development issues and the designation of the land/water base to 17 types of land use zones. Zones are displayed in map form with land/resource use guidelines for each zone type included in the text. Emphasis of use varies with zone type. This emphasis ranges from industrial resource harvesting to strict preservation. Outdoor recreation opportunities are identified in many zone types and afforded appropriate protection.

The plan constitutes a departmental position for the plan area. It is supportive of the Department's mandate to protect, conserve, manage and develop the Province's forest, fisheries, wildlife, water, Crown land and park land resources in the best immediate and long term interests of Manitobans. It permits rapid, independant and consistent administration of land and resources by branches.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MEMORANDUM OF TRANSMITTAL . . . . . *i*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY . . . . . *ii*

FORWARD 1

INTRODUCTION 2

1.1. Current Situation 2
1.2. Purpose and Scope 3

BACKGROUND 4

2.1. The Plan Area 4
2.2. Natural Resources 7

2.2.1. Crown Lands 7
2.2.2. Ecological Reserves 8
2.2.3. Fisheries 9
2.2.4. Forestry 14
2.2.5. Parks 20
2.2.6. Outdoor Recreation 23
2.2.7. Significant Natural and Cultural Features 30
2.2.8. Water Resources 34
2.2.9. Wildlife 37

DEVELOPMENT ISSUES 43

3.1. Access 43
3.2. Tourism 44

RESOURCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES 45

4.1. Crown Lands 45
4.2. Ecological Reserves 45
4.3. Fisheries 46
4.4. Forestry 46
4.5. Parks 47
4.6. Outdoor Recreation 47
4.7. Significant Natural and Cultural Features 47
4.8. Water Resources 48
4.9. Wildlife 48

LAND USE AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT 50

5.1. General Land Use/Resource Management Guidelines 50

5.1.1. Conflict Resolution 50
5.1.2. Access 50
5.1.3. Timber Harvesting 53
5.1.4. Fire Prevention, Detection and Suppression 53
5.1.5. Water Power Storage Reserve & Water Power Licence Area . . 53
5.1.6. Tourism Developments 53
5.1.7. Remote and Isolated Dwellings 54

5.2. Land Use Zones 54

5.2.1. Integrated Forest Industrial Use Zone 54
5.2.2. Caribou Habitat 54
5.2.3. Significant Wildlife Areas 55
5.2.4. Moose Habitat 56
5.2.5. Major Water Bodies 57
5.2.6. Fish Habitat Zone 58
5.2.7. Commercial Net Fishing Zone 59
5.2.8. Sport Angling Zone 59
5.2.9. Recreation Areas 60
5.2.10. Mixed Use Areas 61
5.2.11. Significant Natural and Cultural Features 61
5.2.12. Ecological Reserves 62
5.2.13. Resource Access Areas 62
5.2.14. Project Areas 63
5.2.15. Twin Creeks Agriculture Project 64
5.2.16. Wood Bison Project Area 64

IMPLEMENTATION 65

6.1. Approval and Review 65
6.2. Land/Resource Use Implementation 65
6.3. Land/Resource Use Administration 66

SUMMARY 67

APPENDICES 68

8.1. Appendix I Plan Amendment and Review Process 68
8.2. Appendix II Resource Planning Committee - Terms of Reference 70
8.3. Appendix III List of Abbreviations 71
8.4. Appendix IV Crown Land Classification Committee Generalized Coding for Crown Land Immediately South of the Plan Area 72

LIST OF MAPS & FIGURES

Map 1. North Interlake Plan Area 5

Map 2. Tourist Lodges and Outcamps Utilizing Fisheries Resources 11

Map 3. Timber Commitments 15

Map 4. Forest Management Units 17

Map 5. Parks and Cottage Subdivisions 21

Map 6. Outdoor Recreation Resources 24

Map 7. Harbours & Access Routes 28

Map 8. Significant Natural & Cultural Features 31

Map 9. Water Power Storage Area Lands 35

Map 10. Game Hunting Areas 38

Map 11. Major Wildlife Habitats 39

Map 12. Land/Resource Use Zones 51

Figure 1. Amendment Process 69

Crown Land Classification Committee
Generalized Coding for Crown Land
immediately South of the Plan Areas, 1983 . . . . . pocket, inside back cover

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Estimated Employment Opportunities Related to Surplus Timber Within the Plan Area 19

Table 2. Number Codes Found on Map 5 22

Table 3. Major Outdoor Recreation Activities Expected to Occur in The Plan Area 26

Table 4. Number Codes Found on Map 8 32

Table 5. Legend for Map 12 52

NORTH INTERLAKE OVERVIEW PLAN

FORWARD

The Department of Natural Resources is responsible for protecting, conserving, managing and developing the province's renewable resources, water and Crown land. Fulfillment of this responsiblity contributes to the well being of Manitobans through the provision of economic development and outdoor recreation opportunities, resource needs of subsistence users and the protection of people and property from floods, wildfires and other adverse effects of natural resources.

The Department strives to maximize the long term economic and social benefits associated with resources through integrated resource management and administration. Key to this is establishing a balance between competing land uses which maximizes benefits and minimizes adverse impacts of each resource/ resource use upon all others.

Historically, integration of resource management and balancing of competing uses have occurred on project-specific and incremental bases. Increasing and multiple demands on the finite land base have resulted in the need for improved integration of land and resource use, management and administration. Project-specific and incremental integration is no longer satisfactory. Land and resources must now be viewed in an overall context in order to maximize benefits to Manitobans.

This plan, the second overview plan[1] to be prepared, has built upon past experience and has incorporated improvements. The plan takes an overall approach to land/resource management, use and administration. It provides a blueprint for integrating resource use, management and administration in time and space. In so doing the plan provides for more efficient and effective administration of land/resources in a multi-use, multi-resource context. It makes a positive contribution to the Department's efforts to fulfill its mandate to protect, conserve, manage, administer and develop resources.

---

[1] East Side of Lake Winnipeg Overview Plan and Interim Management Guidelines, 1982

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Current Situation

The central and northern sections of the Interlake Region are subject to increasing interest from a wide variety of users. This results in requests for forestry development, access to commercial fisheries, tourist outcamp and cache locations and land for agricultural developments. Historically the area has been subject to development originating in the south and slowly moving northward. Development is now common in the central area of the Interlake, which includes the Local Government Districts of Fisher and Grahamdale, and in a few rows of townships north of these Local Government Districts. These central portions of the Interlake Region fall within the area planned by the Crown Land Classification Committee (CLCC).[1]

In the plan area the Department of Natural Resources regularly receives, evaluates, approves and disapproves applications for the variety of uses described above. The location of a major north-south highway, PTH 6, and associated secondary roads further highlights the need for long term direction to guide the allocation and management of resources, including land and water, for a variety of uses and the need for the protection of significant natural and cultural features.

---

[1] The Crown Land Classification Committee is an interdepartmental planning committee composed of representation from the Departments of Agriculture, Municipal Affairs and Natural Resources which reports to the Provincial Land Use Committee of Cabinet.

1.2. Purpose and Scope

Preparation of this plan has been undertaken by the Resource Allocation Working Group which is composed of all branches[1] of the Department of Natural Resources. The plan attempts to minimize present and potential land use/resource management conflicts. Its intent is to permit rapid independent and consistent administration of land and resources by branches for the benefit of Manitobans by:

a) allocating land and water to a variety of uses,

b) integrating uses where possible,

c) separating uses in space and time when integration is not possible.

The plan provides guidance for land/resource use decision making by appropriate managers in both a short, five-year term and over a longer 20-year time horizon. Though it may be revised at any time, a major review and, if necessary, revision of the plan should occur at least every five years. In this manner the plan will continue to provide a consistent framework for land/resource use and management in the Northern Interlake.

Sections of the plan provide:

- a brief description of the plan area (Section 2.1)
- description of resources (Section 2.2)
- description of development issues (Sections 3.1 & 3.2)
- statements of goals and objectives relative to resources of the plan area (Sections 4.1 - 4.9)
- guidelines for land/resource management (Sections 5.1 & 5.2)
- general approach to plan implementation (Sections 6.1 - 6.3)
- summary of the plan (Sections 7.1 - 7.4)
- appendices relevant to the plan (Sections 8.1 - 8.3)

---

[1] Crown Lands, Fisheries, Forestry, Parks, Resource Allocation & Planning, Water Resources and Wildlife Branches formed the planning team with overall co-ordination provided by the Resource Allocation and Planning Branch.

BACKGROUND

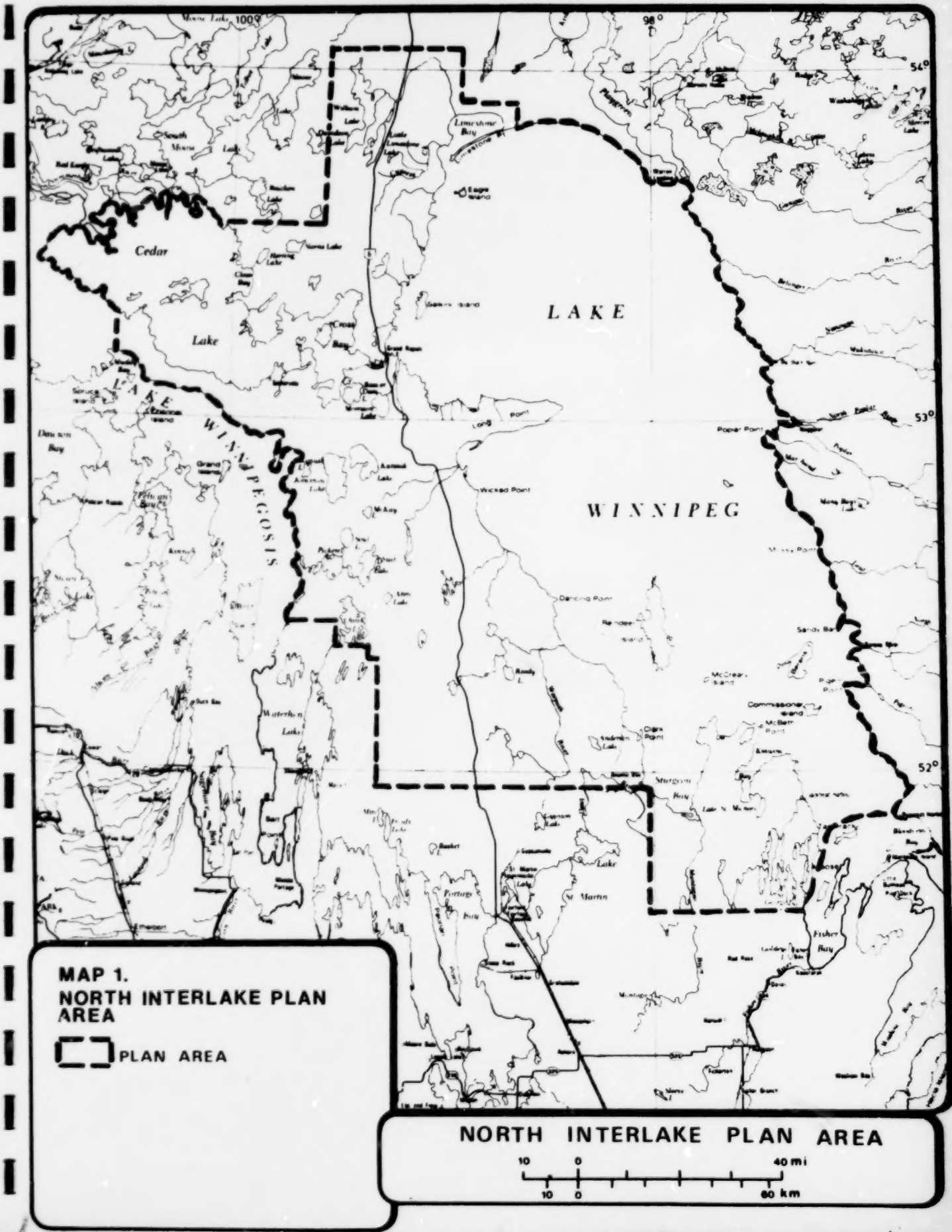
2.1. The Plan Area

The plan area is shown on Map 1. It lies directly north of the Crown Land Classification Committee's (CLCC) northern most boundary. Both the northern and southern boundaries are irregular hence reference must be made to Map 1. The east shore of Lake Winnipeg forms the eastern boundary with portions of the east and north shores of Lake Winnipegosis forming the western boundary. The islands and the north shore of Lake Winnipeg are included as are Cedar Lake, the easterly portion of the Saskatchewan River Delta and land north of Cedar Lake and Grand Rapids in the vicinity of Norris, William and Baker Lakes. The L.G.D. of Grand Rapids, which has prepared a development plan, is excluded.

The southern boundary of the plan area is approximately 200 km north of Winnipeg and the northern boundary is about 420 km north of Winnipeg. Provincial Trunk Highway Number 6 runs through the plan area from south to north while secondary roads provide additional access in the vicinity of Grand Rapids and the Saint Lakes (PR's 224, 327, 513). The plan area is about 220 km from north to south. Average width is about 165 km. Approximately 33,000 km^2 of land and water are included. Most of the land is Crown owned and administered by the Department of Natural Resources under the Crown Lands Act with some land administered for agricultural use on an annual basis by the Department of Agriculture.

Physiographically the plan area is described as a gently undulating till plain which lies within the Interlake-Westlake Plain of the Manitoba Lowlands.

Occasional glacial landforms such as eskers and drumlins occur in various locations. Overall the land slopes from west to east with rivers and streams being primarily easterly flowing. Local drainage is variable with considerable areas of marsh and muskeg interspersed with areas of better drained land. The underlying limestone bedrock is covered by a variety of soils of varying depths.


LAKE
WINNIPEG
Cedar
Lake
LAKE WINNIPEGOSIS
MAP 1.
NORTH INTERLAKE PLAN AREA
PLAN AREA
NORTH INTERLAKE PLAN AREA
10 0 40 mi
10 0 60 km

Vegetation common to the area is typical of the Mixed Woods and Northern Coniferous Forest sections of Manitoba. Forest, fish and wildlife communities are also typical of these sections.

Communities of Grand Rapids and Easterville, and the Indian Reserves of Chemawawin, Grand Rapids and Jackhead Harbour exist[1] in the plan area. Grand Rapids and Easterville-Chemawawin are in the northern part of the area and located close to Cedar Lake. Grand Rapids lies between Cedar Lake and Lake Winnipeg where the Saskatchewan River empties into Lake Winnipeg. Easterville-Chemawawin lies on the south shore of Cedar Lake about 40 km west of Grand Rapids. Jackhead Harbour is located in the southeast quadrant on the shore of Lake Winnipeg.

Immediately south of the plan area Crown lands have been classified by the Crown Lands Classification Committee. Approximately 12,300 km^2 of this land is shown in Appendix IV. The area shown in the Appendix lies north of an east-west line through Hodgson. It contains unorganized Crown land and Crown land in the Local Government Districts of Grahamdale and Fisher. Existing generalized land use designations for this area as per CLCC classification, 1983, are documented for information purposes. There has been no differentiation on the map in Appendix IV between Crown and private lands. It must be clearly understood that these classifications apply only to Crown land.

---

[1] The Local Government District of Grand Rapids, the Grand Rapids Indian Reserve, Chemawawin Indian Reserve and Jackhead Indian Reserve are surrounded by the plan area but excluded from direct consideration in this plan.

2.2. Natural Resources

2.2.1. Crown Lands

Lands Branch is required to administer and manage land through a variety of Crown leases, permits, and reservations, which formalize land tenure. This may be for private use, such as a cottage, or for industrial use, such as a powerline right-of-way. Each formalization of tenure has potential to create conflict. The Lands Branch is particularly concerned about responding to public land use applications and requests with a minimum of delay.

Crown lands are used by the public on a casual basis for activities such as camping, trapping, recreation, commercial and industrial activities. These activities, although they do take place, are limited. This may be due to the scarcity of road access or to the limited opportunities available in the plan area.

Additionally, the administration and management of wild rice is a major responsibility of Lands Branch. At present there are seven wild rice leases and 10 applications for development licences within or immediately adjacent to the plan area. Experimental seeding has been carried out on 10 sites but it is premature to assess results at this time. Current production is very limited.

The basic issues and opportunities relating to Crown Lands in the North Interlake are:

- increasing use of lakes for wild rice production,
- potential land use conflicts regarding future power transmission lines,
- completion of outstanding Indian land claims,
- continued demands for agricultural development in areas of traditional resource use.[1]

[1] While the demand for land for agricultural purposes is identified it is not addressed in this plan since inter-departmental planning is required.

2.2.2. Ecological Reserves

Ecological Reserves are areas of land set aside as natural benchmarks to afford opportunities for the study and research of ecological features and processes. They are administered under the Ecological Reserves Act which prohibits entry into reserves or the undertaking of any activities in reserves except as specifically allowed by permit issued by the Minister of Natural Resources.

Reindeer Island, in the north basin of Lake Winnipeg, was designated an Ecological Reserve by Order-in-Council in 1976. The Johnson Harbour area does not, however, form part of the reserve and hence is available to the public for a variety of uses including use as a harbour of refuge.

Reindeer Island is of ecological significance due to the variety of ecosystems and land forms found on it, some of which are closely related to perma-frost. The island is believed to contain the most southerly occurrence of perma-frost in the province.

Designation of additional reserves will occur as sites worthy of designation are identified and approved by government.

2.2.3. Fisheries

Fisheries activity in the plan area is dominated by commercial net fishing and by resident and non-resident sport angling. Other fisheries activities include domestic fishing, fish farming, bait fishing, fish culture and habitat maintenance.

The commercial fisheries on Cedar Lake and Lake Winnipeg are major employers of plan area residents. In the 1981/82 fishing season, the fishery on Cedar Lake supported 80 licenced fishermen and 78 hired men. There were approximately 733,100 kg marketed weight of fish produced for a gross landed value of about $1,182,000. Major species produced, by weight, were pickerel, pike, tullibee and whitefish.

The Lake Winnipeg fishery supports two major groups of fishermen. In the 1981/82 summer, fall and winter seasons in the Grand Rapids area, 137 licences (many fishermen held more than one licence) harvested approximately 678,000 kg of fish for a gross landed value of about $1,090,000. Major species were pickerel and whitefish. Fishermen from the Gypsumville-Lake St. Martin area were issued 81 licences for the 1981/82 summer and winter seasons and 46 additional licences for the 1982/83 winter season. Residents from Jackhead also fish Lake Winnipeg.

In addition to the major fisheries, commercial operations also exist on William Lake, Chitek Lake, the Sisib-Pickerel Lakes and occasionally, Little Limestone Lake. Although Lake Winnipegosis borders the plan area, very few plan area residents commercially fish this lake. However, it is an important commercial fishery from the provincial perspective and therefore land use policies and practices that affect this lake are a concern.

The fisheries resource of the plan area also supports substantial resident angling and a commercial sport angling (tourist) industry. Results from the 1980 Survey of Sport Fishing[1] showed that approximately 298,000 angler days were spent fishing in the Interlake (11.6% of total provincial angling).

---

[1] Government of Canada and Province of Manitoba 1980. Survey of Sport Fishing, 1980. 41 p.

Approximately 22,500 angler days were expended by non-resident anglers; this generated approximately $5,000,000 of direct expenditures for food, lodging, transportation, etc.. Although the Interlake area in this survey extended south to Teulon, a major portion of angling days and expenditures were spent within the plan area.

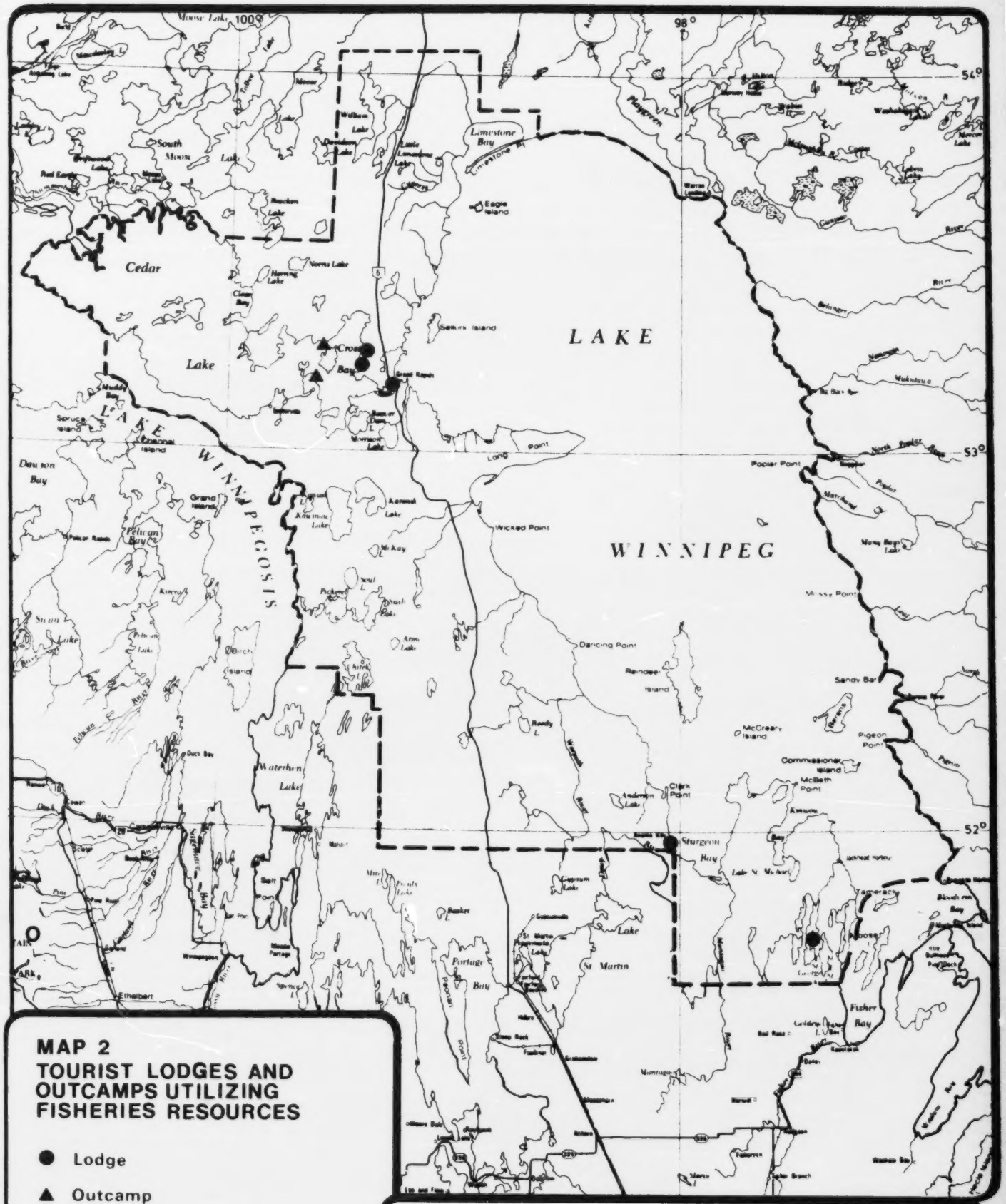
Major angling areas include Lake Winnipeg, Grand Rapids,[1] Cross Bay on Cedar Lake, Warpath River, Jumping River, Mantagao River, Dauphin River and the Saint Lakes area. These, and other areas, not only support resident angling, but also a number of commercial sport fishing (tourist) operations depend heavily on these waters. Lodges utilizing fisheries resources of the plan area include Anama Bay Tourist Camp on the Dauphin River, White Birch Lodge on Lake St. George and Moak Lodge, Pine Grove Cabins and Hobbs Resort and River View Cabins, all near Grand Rapids[1] (See Map 2). Outfitters include Anderson's Outfitting Services, Hunter's Outfitting Service and Sturgeon Bay Outfitting Service, all in the Dauphin River area. These operators cater to both resident and non-resident anglers.

One area specifically zoned and allocated to sport fishing is Cross Bay on Cedar Lake. This area is closed to commercial fishing, thereby protecting sport's species and effectively avoiding a conflict between commercial net fishermen and anglers.

Commercial bait fishing occurs mainly in the Grand Rapids area, Anama Bay area, the Saint Lakes area and at the Fairford dam. Six operators harvest bait fish from about 15 different bait blocks. The bait is processed into small tubs and sold to anglers through retail outlets, both within and outside the plan area.

Some of the best trout farming lakes in the province are found in the plan area, specifically in the Grand Rapids vicinity. These operations are generally larger and more viable than in other areas of the province.

1. Excluded from plan area


LAKE
WINNIPEG
Cedar
Lake
LAKE WINNIPEGOSIS
Limestone Bay
Grand Rapids
Waterhen Lake
Sturgeon Bay
St. Martin
Lake
Fisher Bay
Portage Bay
Dancing Point
Wicked Point
Poplar Point
Reindeer Island
McCreary Island
Commissioner Island
Pigeon Point
Sandy Bar
Dawson Bay
Pelican Bay
Swan Lake
Ethelbert
Winnipeg
Portage
Eagle Island
Gypsum Lake
Basket L.
Duck Bay
Clark Point
McBeth Point
Missy Point
Mossy Point
Limestone Bay
Playgreen
Lake Winnipeg
Lake Manitoba
Lake Winnipegosis
Lake St. Martin
Lake Waterhen
Lake Cedar
Lake Dauphin
Lake Manitoba
Lake Winnipeg

Fisheries of the plan area are generally not threatened by present land use practices. However, it is imperative that fish habitat be protected and maintained if it is to support fishery uses.

Habitat important to the fishery resources includes all rivers and streams used as spawning and nursery areas. The Mantagao, Warpath, Dauphin, William and Jumping Rivers are major spawning rivers along with North and South Twin Creeks, Cypress Creek and other spring flowages that provide spawning habitat for the major lakes.

Fish habitat in Lake Winnipeg, Lake Winnipegosis and Cedar Lake is important to the maintenance of sport and commercial fisheries. The most important single area in these lakes is Limestone Bay at the north end of Lake Winnipeg. It is recognized that this area makes a very significant contribution to the fish stocks of the north end of Lake Winnipeg because of its importance as a spawning and nursery area. It is currently closed to commercial net fishing and may be closed to all fishing in the near future.

Fish culture activities are also important in the plan area. Two hatcheries related to the area contribute significantly to the provincial fish culture program. The hatchery at Grand Rapids supplies stock for both sport and commercial fisheries throughout the province while the hatchery at Anama Bay supplies whitefish and walleye fry for stocking to support the commercial net fshery and the sport fisheries of Sturgeon Bay, Mantagao River and Dauphin River. Most importantly, the plan area has been a major supplier of stock for the other areas of the province. William Lake, Limestone Bay and the Grand Rapids area are important spawn taking areas for the Grand Rapids hatchery. Similarly, the Dauphin River hatchery at Anama Bay depends on whitefish and walleye spawn taken from the Sturgeon Bay, Mantagao River and Dauphin River areas.

The basic issues and concerns related to the fishery resource and its use include:

- increasing demand by resident and non-resident anglers for additional angling opportunities. To date, efforts to address this issue have been directed to stocking and to the encouragement of less harvest through regulation and through catch and release programs. These types of programs will continue to be monitored in light of the supply/demand situation.

- increasing demand by commercial fishermen for additional quota on Cedar Lake and Lake Winnipeg. The Cross Bay area of Cedar Lake, presently zoned for sport fishing only, has come under pressure from commercial fishermen to have it opened for commercial fishing. However, due to the importance of the sport fishery to the Grand Rapids area, and its importance as a resource sanctuary, Cross Bay has been kept closed to commercial fishing. Stocks on Cedar Lake and Lake Winnipeg are being monitored annually to enable the Branch to respond to demands for increased quotas.

- the potential impact of land and other resource uses on the fishery resource base and its users. Any type of activity next to important water bodies that may complement or threaten the fishery resource constitutes an issue. These include such activities as providing or restricting access to the resource and the construction or expansion of facilities that encourage use of the fisheries.

- the protection and maintenance of habitat that is presently supporting the fishery resource. It is important that fisheries habitat be protected in this area. The large commercial fisheries and sport angling activities on Cedar Lake, Lake Winnipeg and Lake Winnipegosis depend on the important spawning and nursery areas in the lakes, rivers and streams feeding into them. Should these areas of habitat be adversely affected, the result would be a decline in the fisheries.

2.2.4. Forestry

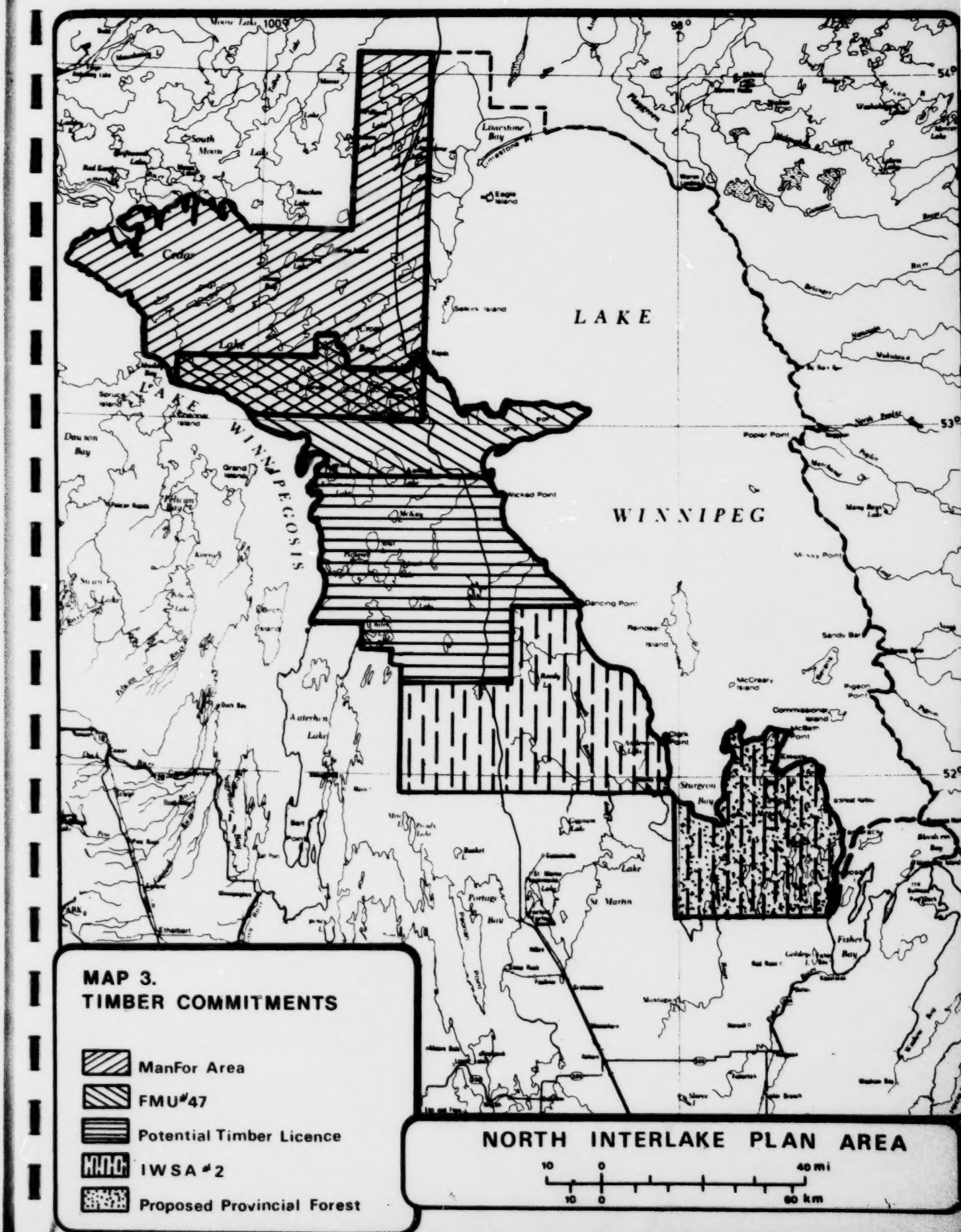
Manitoba's forests are a renewable and valuable resource required to sustain the forest industry, recreation, wildlife, soil and watershed conservation needs. The natural forest ecology is increasingly subjected to the influence of human activities and an obligation exists to efficiently manage and protect forest lands to maintain and enhance the overall benefits accruing to the public of Manitoba from the forest resource.

The role of Forestry Branch is one of intelligent advocacy and implementation of contemporary technical forestry practice, applied in the context of a total resource management strategy, and carried out in conformity with government policy for the care and use of the forest land base and resource.

One of the main concerns relates to areas currently being harvested. In these areas shortfalls in timber supply are imminent at current levels of management. This situation is aggravated by allocation of forested lands to other land uses which often exclude forestry activity. Continuation of current situations will result in the slow demise of the forest industry in some parts of the province which will have negative effects on related employment and social benefits. There is, however, surplus supply of timber in the plan area over and above existing timber commitments.

Timber Commitments

The plan area includes Integrated Wood Supply Area #2 (IWSA-2). This area was established as part of a timber supply area under the agreement between Manitoba and Abitibi-Price Inc. (Map 3). The agreement is covered by Order-in-Council No. 519 dated May 23, 1979. The area is managed by the Department of Natural Resources with Abitibi-Price having first right of refusal to the spruce and balsam harvested from Crown land. This means that Abitibi-Price has the first right to purchase spruce and balsam produced at market competitive prices or the first right to install their own harvesting operations in the area.


LAKE
WINNIPEG
MAP 3.
TIMBER COMMITMENTS
ManFor Area
FMU #47
Potential Timber Licence
IWSA #2
Proposed Provincial Forest
NORTH INTERLAKE PLAN AREA
10 0 40 mi
10 0 60 km

Commitments also exist in Forest Management Units (FMU) 41, 45 and 46 (Map 4) to timber allocation holders and communities. Sixteen timber allocation holders and four communities hold rights in FMU 41.

Some uncertainties exist in FMU 47 resulting from unsettled matters with respect to the impact of the Manitoba Hydro dam at Grand Rapids. These are under litigation and when resolved the full impact on the forest resources will be known.

In addition to the above, part of the plan area in the vicinity of Cedar Lake is included in the Manfor Agreement Area (Map 3). Wood from this area is used to partially supply the wood requirements of the forest products facility at The Pas.

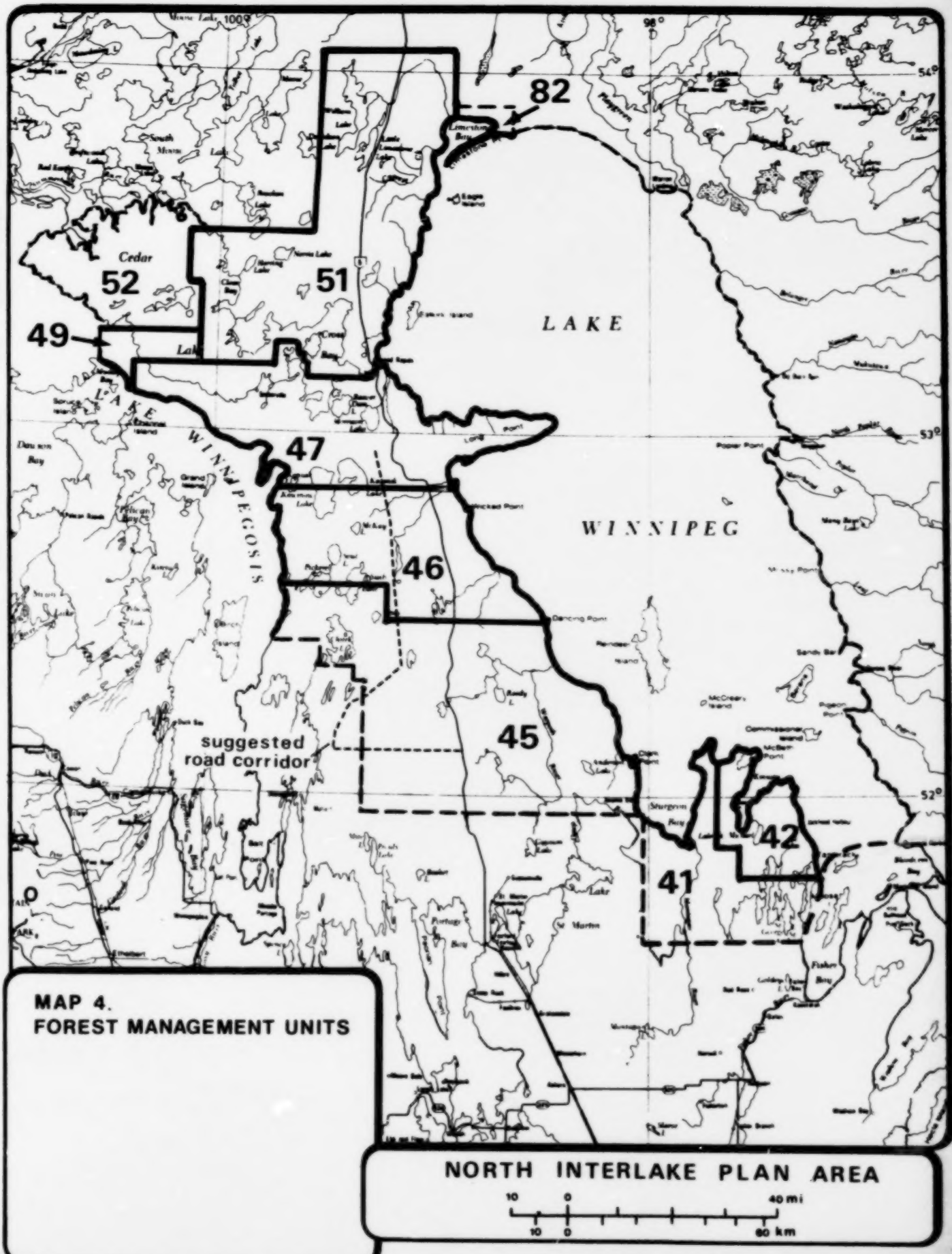
Forest Industry Development Opportunities

There are opportunities in the less developed forest sections of Manitoba which include the Potential Timber Licence (Map 3) for expansion of the forest industry to utilize the full annual allowable cut (annual harvest based on the annual growth capability of the forested area) and thus provide additional employment opportunities. Present (1982/83) depressed economic conditions have resulted in a reduction in the demand for forest products. However, when the upturn occurs, demand will increase and with it new forest industry development opportunities in the underutilized areas.

The North Interlake Plan Area, because of its proximity to markets and available surplus softwood, geographically provides the first practicable opportunity for new industry.[1] This opportunity has been confirmed, since prior to the present economic downturn there were proposals from two established Manitoba medium-sized corporations to set up a small log sawmill complex at or near Gypsumville. Each proponent planned to produce softwood lumber, chips and rough pulpwood. Both proposals would have required virtually all of the surplus softwood. In addition there has been a recent inquiry for 500,000 to 1,500,000 fence posts by an established Manitoba fence post producer.

---

[1]See Map 3, Potential Timber Licence



MAP 4.
FOREST MANAGEMENT UNITS

NORTH INTERLAKE PLAN AREA

10 0 40 mi
10 0 60 km

No proposals have been advanced for hardwood utilization; however, the volumes available have been identified as:

a) additional timber supply for a composite board (waferboard) plant located in the Western Region which is more centrally located to a larger timber supply, and

b) alternate fuel and feedstock relative to energy generation studies being conducted by the Department of Energy and Mines.

The Forest Management Plan for Manitoba[1] includes data on the entire Interlake Forest Section. It shows that 283,640 m^3 of softwood and 122,720 m^3 of hardwood for a total of 406,360 m^3 of wood are available for use on an annual allowable cut (AAC) basis.

Annual allowable cut calculations are available for the Forest Management Units that comprise the Interlake Forest Section, however, no segregated figures are available for the North Interlake Plan Area which consists of partial FMUs and committed timber areas. It is estimated that for the plan area 173,000 m^3 of softwood and 117,000 m^3 of hardwood totalling 290,000 m^3 are available. This is based on percentage area approximations of rough proportions for the plan area and serve as prescription guides.

There are existing timber supply commitments in the plan area to Manfor, Manitoba Building Products, South East Forest Products, Abitibi-Price, individuals and communities leaving an approximate annual surplus of 112,000 m^3 softwoods and 117,000 m^3 hardwoods which total 229,000 m^3 of wood.

Utilization of all the surplus timber (229,000 m^3, approximately 81,000 cunits) would result in the estimated total employment of 155 man/years per year (Table 1). Values shown in Table 2 reflect labour only, probably 40% of the total value. Therefore the total direct value is $8,500,000 per year. This is additional to the Interlake Forest Section 1980-81 peak production of 58,000 m^3 which resulted in value added of approximately $6,000,000.

---

[1] Forest Management Plan, 1981-2000. Forestry Branch, Manitoba Department of Natural Resources (prepared by Forests International, Vancouver, B.C.) 2 Vol.

Table 1. Estimated Employment Opportunities Related to Surplus Timber Within the Plan Area

Activity	Man Years of Employment/Year	Wages/Year
Harvesting	80	$1,600,000
Delivery & Support	20	500,000
Renewal	15	300,000
Sub-Total:	115	$2,400,000
First Conversion	40	1,000,000
Total:	155	$3,400,000

Because of the need for economic development in the Interlake, full utilization of the foest resource is contemplated consistent with this plan. It is anticipated such development will be simulated by the November 29, 1982 Canada-Manitoba Subsidiary Agreement on Northern Development.

As much of the mature timber is inaccessible, a new forest access road is required. This approximate 110 km road would constitute a loop west of PTH #6 as shown on Map 4. Additionally the present winter road (Kinwow Bay Road) servicing FMU 41 should be upgraded to year-round standard.

Other thrusts of the Branch include:

a proposal for Provincial Forest (Map 3) to preserve the integrity of the forest land base for continued harvesting of the timber crop by community residents in the Saint Lakes area.

increased forest management and renewal efforts to maintain the forest resource as it is harvested and to enhance existing forest resources.

consideration of other Provincial Forest candidate areas requiring further study which are located in the Twin Creeks, Warpath River and Chitek Lake areas.

consideration of additional areas which may be identified over time for consideration as provincial forests.

2.2.5. Parks

Six wayside parks, two recreational cottage subdivisions and one site of a proposed park (Map 5) are located in the plan area. A site, in the L.G.D. of Grand Rapids, associated with the historic Grand Rapids Tramway is also of interest though it lies outside the area covered by this plan.

The six wayside parks include Buffalo Lake, Grand Rapids, Oscar Point, Devils Lake, Lake St. George and Lake St. Andrew Wayside Parks. These serve some of the recreational needs of residents and tourists. Camping is encouraged at buffalo Lake, Grand Rapids, Oscar Point and Lake St. George Waysides. Use has recently declined from moderate to low. This may be a result of current economic conditions, intervening recreation opportunities to the south along Lake Winnipeg, competition from other areas (Whiteshell, Riding Mountain, etc.), distance from major population centers and increasing energy costs. Still, the parks are important for their potential to become destination parks and take off points for visitation of other natural and cultural features in the plan area.

The two recreational cottage subdivisions are located at Cross Bay, north of Grand Rapids, and at Lake St. George. Twelve of the 14 lots at Cross Bay are occupied and all 21 lots at Lake St. George are occupied.

The one site that will be proposed as a Provincial Heritage Park is the Little Limestone caves north of Grand Rapids. This site was identified in the Provincial Parks System Plan as being an example of some of Manitoba's outstanding natural heritage. It hosts fine examples of karst topography and some of the caves are used by several species of bats.

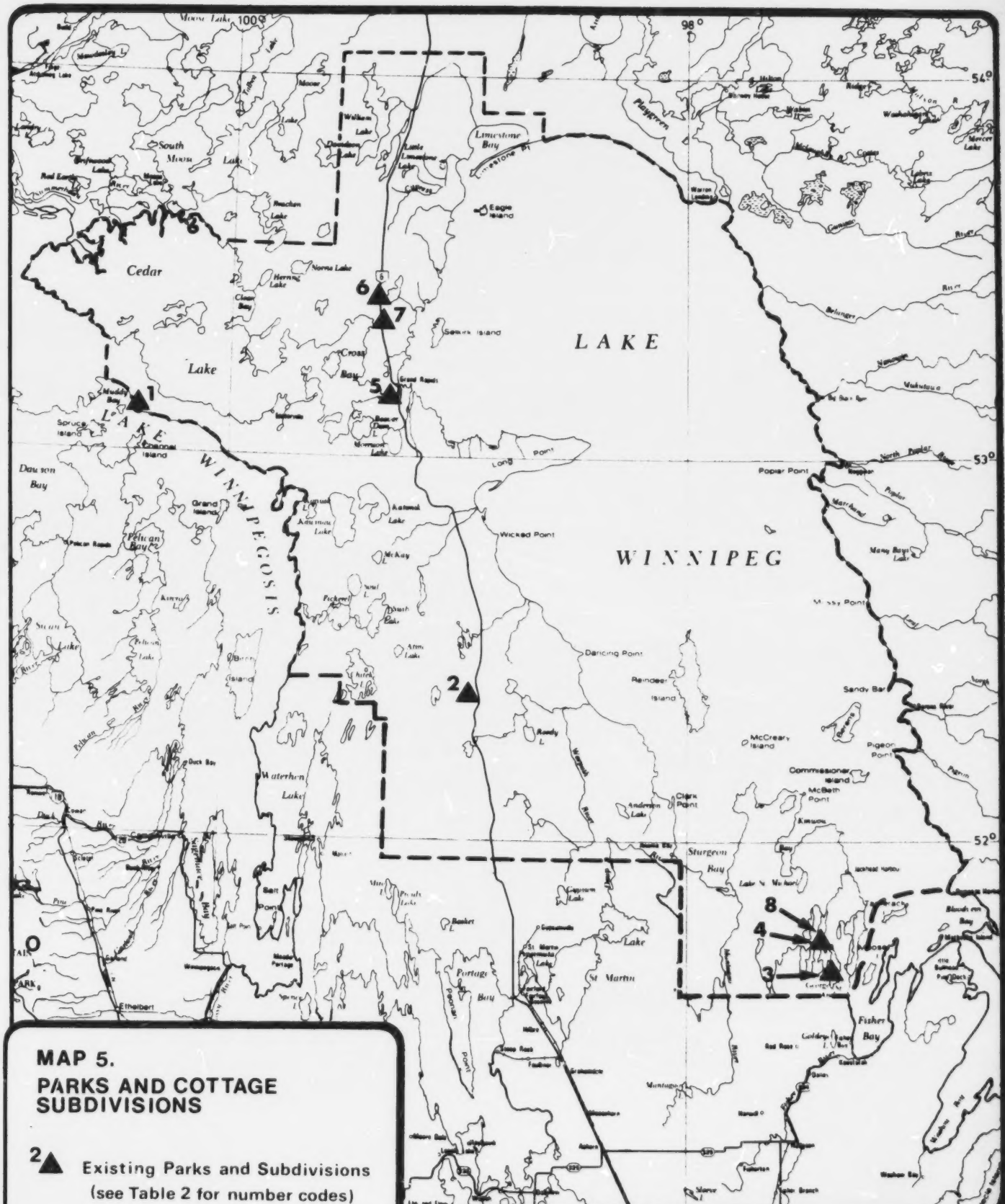

LAKE
WINNIPEG
Cedar
Lake
Dauphin
Lake
Waterhen
Lake
St Martin
Portage
Bay
Sturgeon
Bay
Fisher
Bay
Dawson
Bay
Pelican
Bay
Limestone
Bay
Cross
Bay
Etherbert
Eagle
Island
Reindeer
Island
Dancing Point
Wicked Point
Poplar Point
Long
Point
Sandy Bar
Pigeon
Point
McCreary
Island
Commissioner
Island
McBeth
Point
Clark
Point
Anderson
Lake
Basker
Lake
Randy
L
Pelican
Rapids
Grand
Island
Grand Rapids
Swan
River
Playgreen
Lake
Moose Lake
South
Moosa
Lake
Red Earth
Creek
Reserve
Lake
Herring
Lake
Norma Lake
Little
Limestone
Lake
Warren
Landing
Mercer
Lake
Wekusko
Lake
Wekusko
Falls
Belanger
River
Wekusko
Paint
Lake
Aquimia
Lake
McKay
L
Pickerel
L
Trout
L
Arm
Lake
Kimmy
L
Stuart
Lake
Pelican
Lake
Barrier
Island
Ethelbert
Duck Bay
Pine
River
Bridge
Basker
L
Cormorant
Lake
St Martin
Lake
Anderson
Lake
Randy
L
Warpath
River
Pigeon
Point
Sandy Bar
Mossy Point
Long
Point
Poplar Point
Wekusko
Falls
Belanger
River
Wekusko
Paint
Lake
Mercer
Lake
Warren
Landing
Eagle
Island
Limestone
Bay
Playgreen
Lake
Moose Lake
South
Moosa
Lake
Red Earth
Creek
Reserve
Lake
Herring
Lake
Norma Lake
Cedar
Lake
Cross
Bay
Grand Rapids
Swan
River
Dawson
Bay
Pelican
Bay
Grand
Island
Pelican
Rapids
Aquimia
Lake
McKay
L
Pickerel
L
Trout
L
Arm
Lake
Kimmy
L
Stuart
Lake
Pelican
Lake
Barrier
Island
Ethelbert
Duck Bay
Pine
River
Bridge
Waterhen
Lake
Basker
L
Cormorant
Lake
St Martin
Lake
Portage
Bay
Sturgeon
Bay
Fisher
Bay
Dancing Point
Wicked Point
Poplar Point
Long
Point
Sandy Bar
Pigeon
Point
McCreary
Island
Commissioner
Island
McBeth
Point
Clark
Point
Anderson
Lake
Basker
Lake
Randy
L
Pelican
Rapids
Grand
Island
Grand Rapids
Swan
River
Playgreen
Lake
Moose Lake
South
Moosa
Lake
Red Earth
Creek
Reserve
Lake
Herring
Lake
Norma Lake
Cedar
Lake
Cross
Bay

Table 2. Number Codes Found on Map 5
1. Oscar Point Wayside Park
2. Devils Lake Wayside Park
3. Lake St. Andrew Wayside Park
4. Lake St. George Wayside Park
5. Grand Rapids Wayside Park
6. Buffalo Lake Wayside Park
7. Cross Bay Cottage Subdivision
8. Lake St. George Cottage Subdivision

2.2.6. Outdoor Recreation

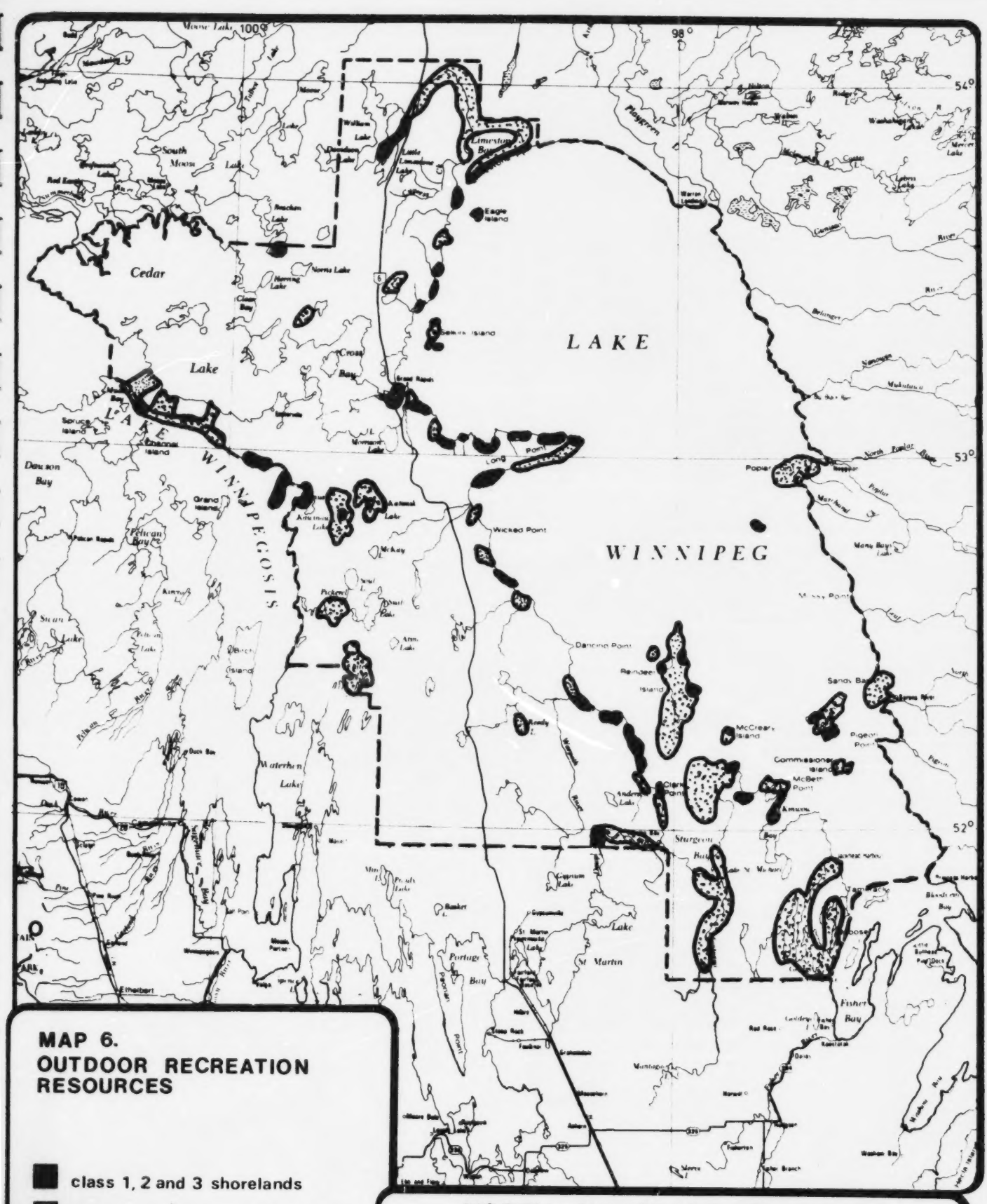
Outdoor recreation[1] opportunities occur throughout the plan area and include a wide variety of specific activities (Table 3). These activities are addressed by several provincial acts and regulations including the Provincial Park Lands Act, Wildlife Act, Crown Lands Act and Water Resources Administration Act. Reference to these acts indicates that provincial responsibilities are both extensive and specific.

The plan area, from an overall perspective, has a moderate capability for resource oriented outdoor recreation as documented by the Canada Land Inventory for Outdoor Recreation. Upland areas are, however, characterized by flat topography and monotonous patterns of vegetation. This results in a generally uninteresting landscape. Therefore, areas of even modest capability or which have some potential for outdoor recreation in the plan area have a high significance. These areas include the shorelands of Lake Winnipeg, Lake Winnipegosis and a limited number of small lakes and water systems. Upland recreation is, in general, access oriented and extensive in nature (e.g., hunting, snowmobiling).

The plan area has a considerable length of shoreline adjoining Lakes Winnipeg and Winnipegosis, which provides a regionally and provincially significant recreation opportunity. These areas are generally undeveloped, and provide development potential for the future. Canada Land Inventory Class 1, 2 and 3 shorelands (Map 6), existing recreation developments and shorelands offering unique or scarce opportunities are worthy of special consideration. Future development may, however, be limited by exposure, cold water, short summer seasons, unsuitable backshores, lack of road access, water levels and restrictions

---

[1] All outdoor, resource oriented activities other than those associated with work and essential personal and social tasks, which are undertaken by people in their leisure or uncommitted time, essentially defined by free choice.



MAP 6.
OUTDOOR RECREATION RESOURCES

class 1, 2 and 3 shorelands

significant recreation resources

NORTH INTERLAKE PLAN AREA

10 0 40 mi
10 0 60 km

on land use due to water power storage activities.

Lakes Winnipeg and Winnipegosis[1] have potential as recreational waterways. Recognition of the importance of these waterways and the maintenance of their integrity and usefulness is significant to the area.

Overall development and use of outdoor recreation resources in the plan area is low. There are relatively few lodge or tourist operators, campgrounds, access points, and related facilities. Outdoor recreation is however recognized as an important resource use. Consequently, there is a need to maintain existing levels of opportunities, and to meet future demand for residents and non-residents of the area. Maintenance of existing all-weather roads and provision of additional road access is central to the continued provision and any possible future expansion of many recreation opportunities.

There is substantial potential for cottage development. Development to date, however, has been very limited (See Section 2.2.5.). No major developments exist on the shores of Lakes Winnipeg and Winnipegosis and none are planned. The limited development to date is related to distance from Winnipeg, the ready availability of other cottage opportunities and the high cost of access development.

High quality beaches exist on Lake Winnipeg, few of which have been developed. These are, however, formed from pressure ridges and thus are subject to limitations on backshore development. Highest beach capability exists in the Long Point, Lynx Bay, McBeth Point and Kinwow Bay areas. Potential on Lake Winnipegosis is limited to the Oscar Point and Denbeigh Point areas.

Major boating potential of the plan area centers on the north basin of Lake Winnipeg. This basin, while known for hazardous water and weather, provides excellant opportunities, outstanding scenery and virtually no development.

---

[1] Although Lake Winnipegosis is not located in the plan area, the outdoor recreation value of this waterway accrues to the shorelands, a portion of which are in the plan area.

Table 3. Major Outdoor Recreation Activities Expected to Occur in the Plan Area

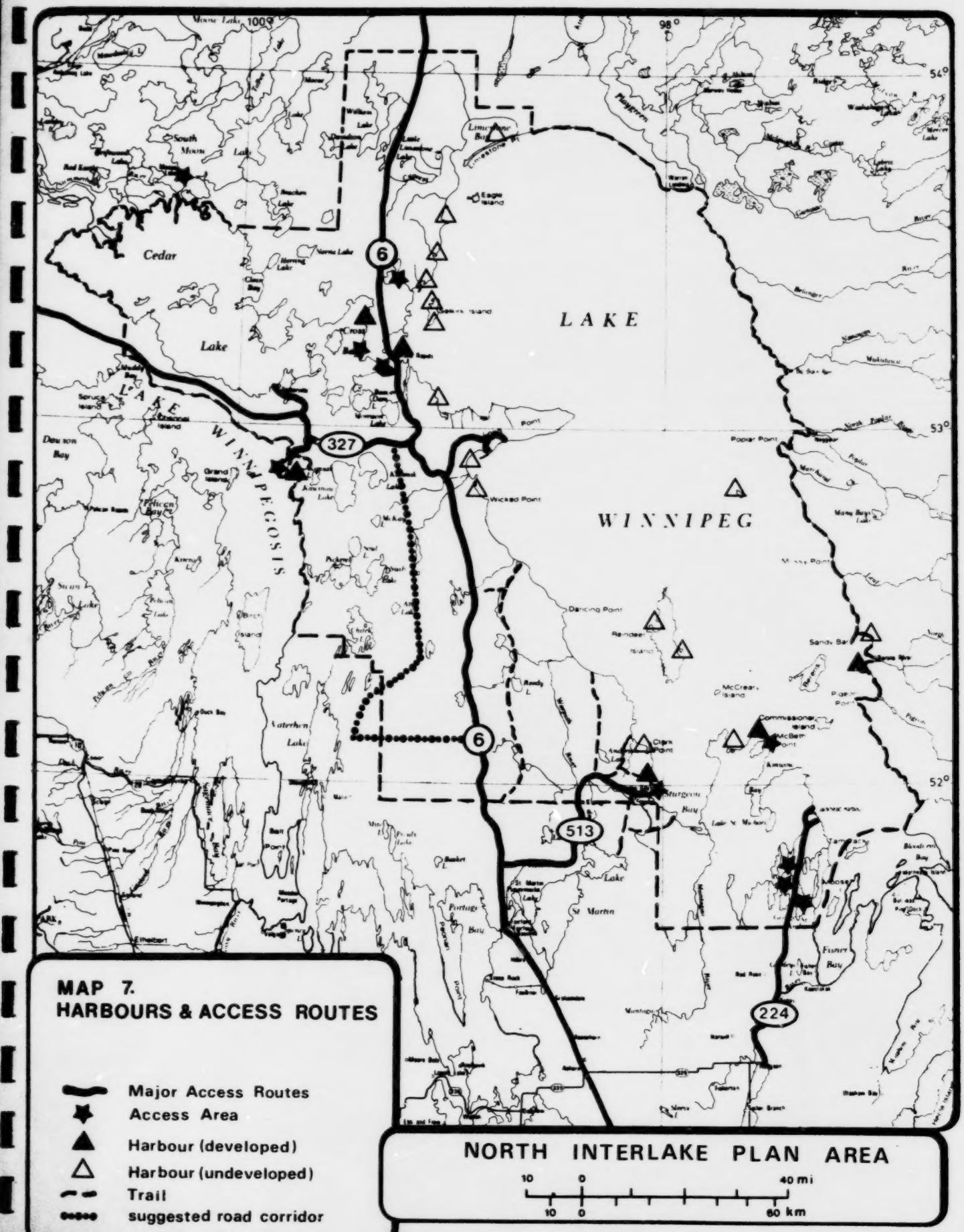
Activity	Sub-Activities
Resource Based Activities	
Sport Fishing (Remote, Accessible)	General, trophy, spear, bow, dip netting and competitions
Big Game Hunting (Firearm, Archery)	Elk, Moose, Deer, Bear, Wolf
Upland Game Hunting	Grouse, Rabbit,
Migratory Bird Hunting	Duck, Goose, Sandhill Crane, Wilson's Snipe, Coot, Rail
Trapping	Furbearing animals
Boating	Day boating, cruising, power cruising
Swimming	General, snorkelling
Canoeing	General, wilderness, day trips
Gathering/Collecting	Natural products - berries, mushrooms, rocks, plants, firewood, shrub and tree seedlings, Christmas trees,
Nature Interpretation and Study	Photography, painting, writing, observing
Trails	Cross-country skiing, hiking, horseback riding, snowmobiling, snowshoeing, cycling, driving, orienteering
Travel/Viewing	Sight-seeing, relaxing, photography
Facility Based Activities	
Camping	General, organized, wilderness
Cottaging	General, fishing, hunting, wilderness activities
Picnicking	
Historical/Cultural Interpretation	Historic sites, museums, ecological reserves

Existing harbours and boating centres provide services and potential for economic return to local people. In addition there are a number of natural harbours in the basin especially along the west shore offering opportunities for solitude and safe anchorage (Map 7). Harbours, however, are scarce along the eastern shore. Lake Winnipegosis also offers substantial boating opportunities but to date there has been no development within the plan area.

On a province wide basis, both leisure time and the demand for recreation has increased. However, within the plan area, there is evidence to suggest that use of some recreation opportunities may have stabilized or declined. This may be a result of (Whiteshell, Riding Mountain, etc.), limited access development. It is likely that the private automobile will in the future, as in the past, be the major mode of travel to recreation areas. This being the case access takes on major significance (Map 7).

Within the plan area and Manitoba as a whole the past decade has seen a continued increase in the availability of leisure time. This has resulted in an increase in the demand for resource-based outdoor recreation opportunities. People have not only had increased levels of disposable income but have been willing to allocate more of their income to recreation. At the same time, changes in lifestyle and education have combined with new trends to further increase demands for recreation opportunities.

An assessment of the supply/demand relationships for outdoor recreation in the plan area was undertaken by staff from Parks, Wildlife, Fisheries and Resource Allocation and Planning Branches. The results indicate that supply is equal to or in excess of demand for all but a few activities. Undersupply is identified only for elk hunting, moose hunting and canoeing under current conditions but is projected to include accessible sport fishing, cottaging, and developed boat access.



MAP 7.
HARBOURS & ACCESS ROUTES

- Major Access Routes
- Access Area
- Harbour (developed)
- Harbour (undeveloped)
- Trail
- suggested road corridor

NORTH INTERLAKE PLAN AREA

10 0 40 mi
10 0 60 km

Major issues identified for the plan area relative to outdoor recreation are:

- identification of high recreation capability
- improvement of access and stimulation of development opportunities in the face of competition from other regions of the Province
- maintenance of public right of access
- protection of scarce and unique recreation opportunities
- conservation of high quality shorelands
- recognition and maintenance of areas currently providing outdoor recreation opportunities
- the maintenance and enhancement of resource-based outdoor recreation opportunities, especially where present or projected demand exceeds the available supply
- improvement of road access. The development and maintenance of road access is an essential factor in meeting present and future needs, and stimulating development for outdoor recreation. All road development must include and recognize the importance of outdoor recreation interests
- conservation of high quality shorelands along Lake Winnipeg. This waterbody and the associated island and shorelands provide recreation opportunities of provincial significance. A high quality environment is available for a wide variety of outdoor recreation activities. There is a need to protect and conserve these shorelands and islands from random or scattered uses which are not compatible with recreation interests.

2.2.7. Significant Natural and Cultural Features

Many significant natural and cultural features are located within the plan area (Map 8). Certain sites also show potential for recreational development. The potential is specific to local or tourist needs while significant features have provincial, national and international importance. This importance can be recognized by preserving the features as examples of rarities in the natural world or remnants of the province's history, and by managing sites with recreational potential to meet the future demands for recreational facilities.

Most significant sites have no designations providing protection. Sites of natural significance are George Island, Reindeer Island (protected as an Ecological Reserve), a site south of Long Point, Long Point, Katimik and Kawinaw Lakes, and caves near Little Limestone Lake. All are important for certain species of plant or animal life. Sites that exhibit geological significance exist along The Pas Moraine and at Buffalo and Little Honeymoon Lakes. The caves near Little Limestone Lake also fit this category.

Cedar Lake, Lake Winnipeg and the Saskatchewan River are the basis of the cultural history of the area. These waterbodies served as transportation routes through much of the Province's history. Grand Rapids, East and West Mossey Portage and three sites of fur trading posts on Cedar Lake are the best examples of culturally significant sites. Many of these sites, and Oscar Point, are also of heritage (archealogical) significance.

Sites showing potential for recreational use are widespread. All natural and potential harbours on Lakes Winnipeg and Winnipegosis within the plan area are included as is the Saint Lakes area, the Mantagao River and some sites around Grand Rapids.

Through considering the presence and significance of these features and sites, the need for their protection and the numerous activities that could threaten their existence, the following issues and concerns are identified:

- the need to protect significant natural resources and sites that possess significant cultural heritage.

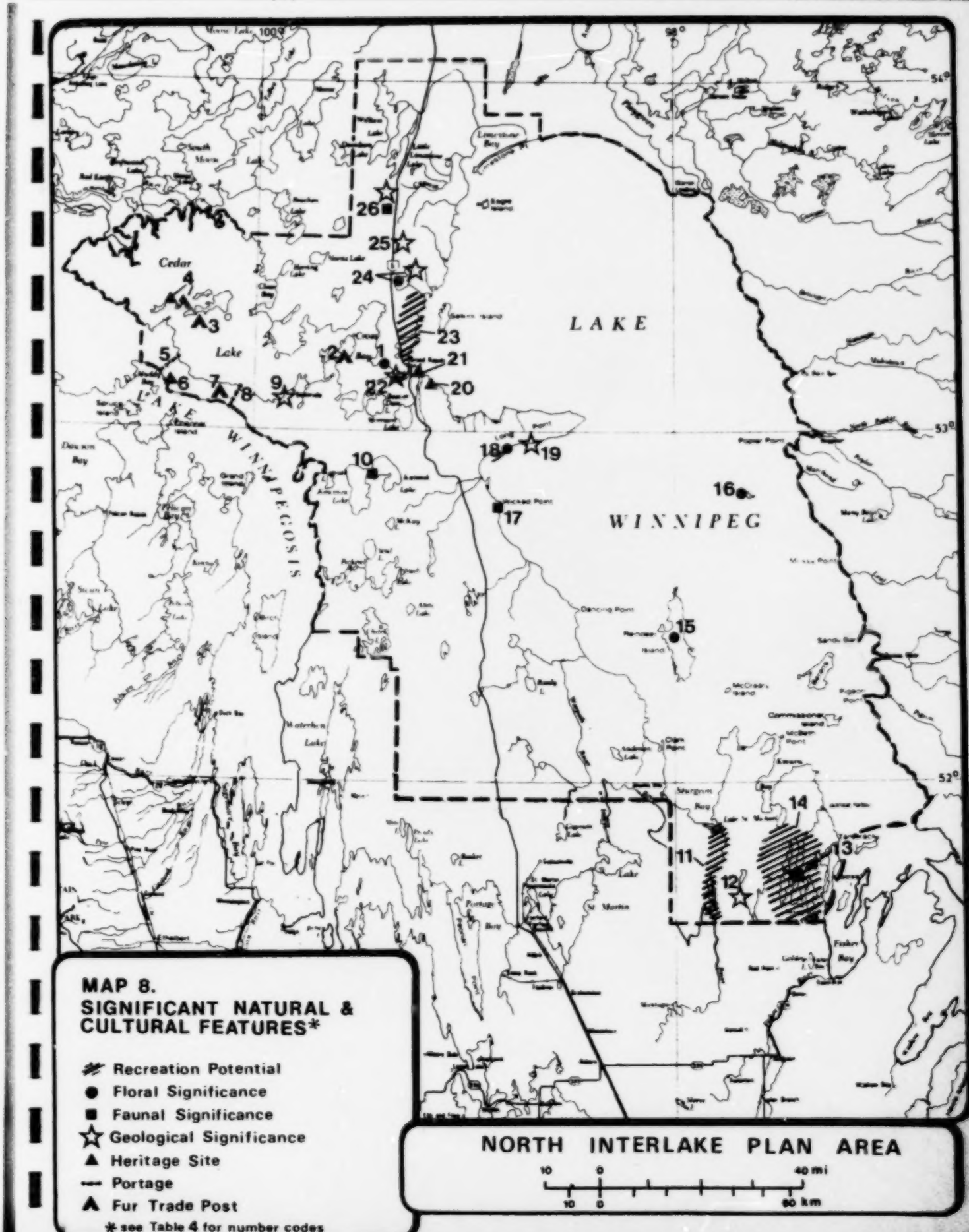

LAKE
Cedar
Lake
LAKE
WINNIPEGOSIS
WINNIPEG
NORTH INTERLAKE PLAN AREA
10 0 40 mi
10 0 60 km
MAP 8.
SIGNIFICANT NATURAL & CULTURAL FEATURES*
Recreation Potential
Floral Significance
Faunal Significance
Geological Significance
Heritage Site
Portage
Fur Trade Post
* see Table 4 for number codes

Table 4. Number Codes Found on Map 8
1. Trailrace Bay Heritage Site[1]
2. Cedar Lake House Site
3. 1st Fort Paskoya, 2nd Fort Bourbon
4. Fort Chemahawin Site and Heritage Site
5. West Mossey Portage
6. Oscar Point Heritage Site
7. Unnamed Fort Site
8. East Mossey Portage
9. Amber Beaches
10. Kawinaw, Katimik Lakes Waterfowl and Colonial Nesting Birds Area
11. Mantagao River. Potential for Recreational Canoe Route
12. Meteor Crater
13. Bat Caves in the Lake St. George Area
14. Saint Lakes Area. Potential for Recreational Waterways
15. Reindeer Island Ecological Reserve
16. George Island. IBP Site
17. Sandhill Crane Colony
18. Long Point Pure Stand of Eastern White Cedar. IBP Site
19. Long Point. End Moraine and Ancient Beach Ridges
20. Harbour Bay Ceramic Heritage Site[2]
21. Harbour Bay Non-Ceramic Heritage Site[2]
22. Karst Topography in the Grand Rapids Area
23. Shoreline near Grand Rapids. Potential for Recreational Use[1]
24. Buffalo Lake. Limestone Escarpment. Longest Wave Cut Cave. North Limit of 3 Toothed Saxifrage
25. Little Honeymoon Lake. Remnant of Glacial Lake Agassiz Shoreline
26. Cave Network South of Little Limestone Lake. Includes Largest Natural Bat Hibernaculum in Manitoba

1. For information only since area lies within the Local Government District of Grand Rapids
2. For information only since area lies within Indian Reserve No. 33 (Grand Rapids Indian Reserve)

- the need for proper buffering around sites of natural, cultural, heritage or recreational value.

- the need for further studies to investigate known sites and to search out other significant sites.

- the need for the development of recreational sites to satisfy demands over the long term.

- the need to identify natural harbours and to develop potential harbours for the promotion of recreational boating.

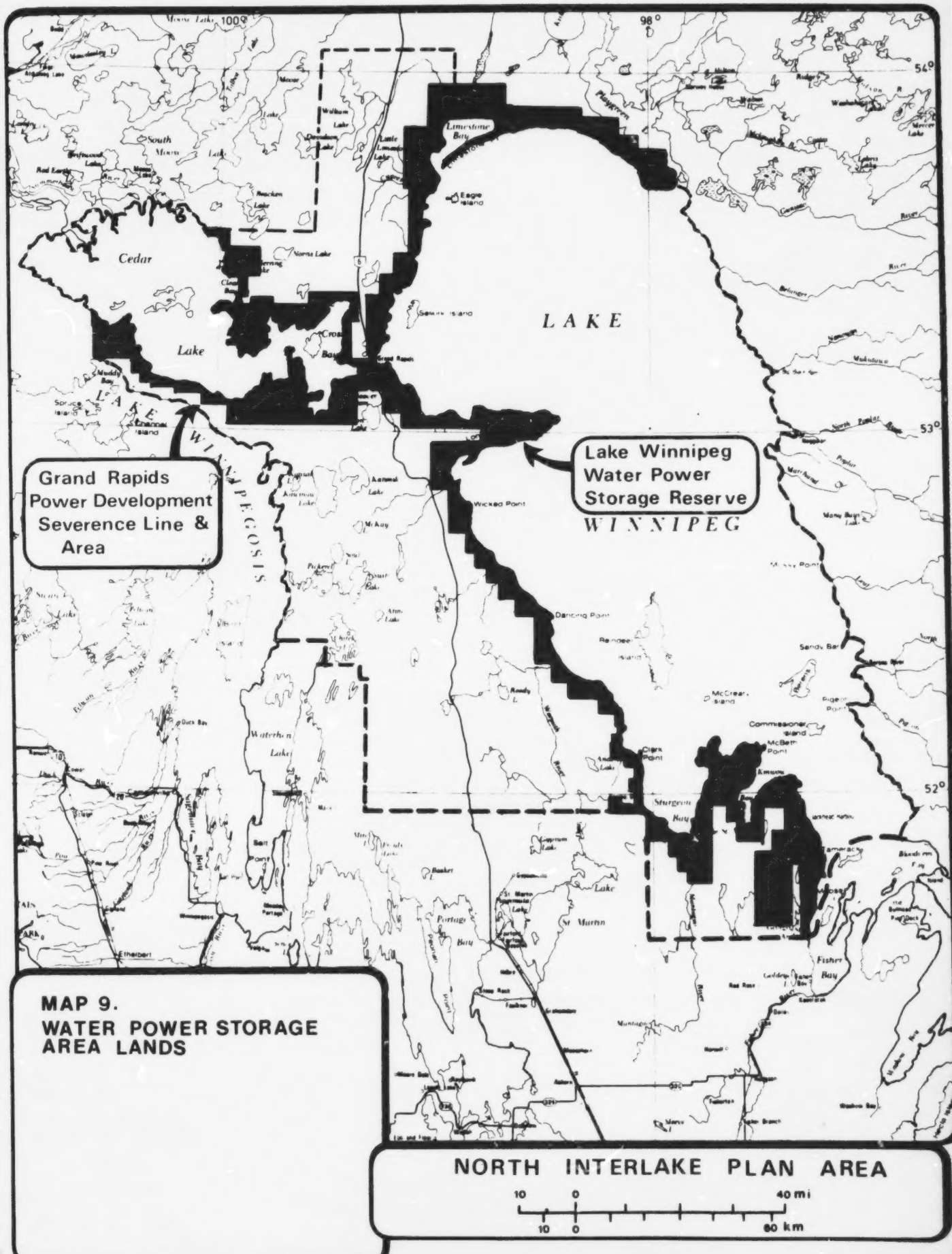
2.2.8. Water Resources

Lake Winnipeg and Cedar Lake are used as water storage reservoirs for hydroelectric power generation. This has resulted in regulation of land adjacent to both lakes relative to their role as reservoirs.

Order-in-Council 562/64 designates Crown land adjacent to Lake Winnipeg as the Lake Winnipeg Water Power Storage Reserve (Map 9). These lands are reserved for the purpose of any undertaking under the Water Power Act. This Act and Water Power Regulations made under it are administered by Water Resources Branch. The Reserve protects Crown lands from disposition from sale and/or lease, permit or licence unless such lands are no longer required for water power or unless the intended use will not conflict in any manner with the reserve's primary purpose.

For any permanent development or sale of Crown land, removal of the land from the Water Power Reserve is required. Temporary use of lands under lease or permit requires approval under the Water Power Regulations. Requests for proposed Crown land use in the Water Power Reserve are submitted to the Water Resources Branch for assessment with regard to flooding, erosion and requirements for water power purposes. Manitoba Hydro may also be contacted for comments regarding these requests.

Manitoba Hydro is licenced under the Manitoba Water Power Act and Regulations to regulate water levels on Lake Winnipeg in the range between 216.7m and 217.9m, Geodetic Survey of Canada datum, however, under extreme run-off conditions it would not be possible to maintain the lake level within the desired range. The Water Resources Branch has established elevation 220m GSC datum, as the 100-year flood level on Lake Winnipeg and it is this level which is used to assess the flood hazard for Crown lands adjacent to the lake. The elevation of 220m is derived from a static 100-year flood level of 218.5m with allowances of 0.76m for wind setup and 0.76m for wave uprush.


Grand Rapids
Power Development
Severence Line &
Area
Lake Winnipeg
Water Power
Storage Reserve
LAKE
WINNIPEG
Cedar
Lake
South
Moose
Lake
Limestone
Bay
Eagle
Island
Wicked Point
Dancing Point
Reindeer
Island
Sandy Bar
McCreary
Island
Commissioner
Island
McBeth
Point
Clark
Point
Sturgeon
Bay
Waterhen
Lake
Portage
Bay
St. Martin
Lake
Fisher
Bay
Ethelbert
Duck Bay
Spruce
Island
Channel
Island
Muddy
Bay
Crane
Bay
Grand Beach
Pigeon
Point
Marchand
Manigotagan
Berens River
Poplar
Bloodvein
Pauingassi
Little
Limestone
Lake
Flanders
Island
Waterhen
Lake
Red Earth
Moose Lake
Reader
Lake
Norris Lake
Severn Island
Crane
Bay
Muddy
Bay
Spruce
Island
Channel
Island
Wicked Point
Dancing Point
Reindeer
Island
McCreary
Island
Commissioner
Island
McBeth
Point
Clark
Point
Sturgeon
Bay
Portage
Bay
St. Martin
Lake
Fisher
Bay
Ethelbert
Duck Bay
Waterhen
Lake
Pigeon
Point
Marchand
Manigotagan
Berens River
Poplar
Bloodvein
Pauingassi
Little
Limestone
Lake
Flanders
Island
Red Earth
Moose Lake
Reader
Lake
Norris Lake
Severn Island
100°
98°
54°
53°
52°
10
6
MAP 9.
WATER POWER STORAGE
AREA LANDS
NORTH INTERLAKE PLAN AREA
10 0 40 mi
10 0 60 km

Land adjacent to Cedar Lake comes under the terms of the Grand Rapids Water Power Licence issued to Manitoba Hydro on May 30, 1975 in accordance with provisions of the Water Power Act and Regulations. Crown lands within the Severance Line (Map 9) are identified as being required for the generation of hydroelectric power. These lands have been designated as being required for flooding and construction of works above water and works below water.

Permanent use of lands or transfer of lands within the Severance Line requires revision of the Water Power Licence. Temporary use of lands under lease or permit in the Licence Area requires approval under the Water Power Regulations. Requests for proposed Crown land use in the Licence Area are submitted to the Water Resources Branch for assessment with regard to flooding, erosion and requirements for water power purposes. Concurrence of Manitoba Hydro and the Department of Natural Resources is required before Crown land can be removed from a Water Power Licence Area.

Manitoba Hydro is licenced under the Manitoba Water Power Act and Regulations to regulate water levels within the Licence Area to a maximum elevation of 258.2m, Geodetic Survey of Canada datum. The Water Resources Branch has established elevation 259.1m, GSC datum, as the 100-year flood level on Cedar Lake and it is the level which is used to assess the flood hazard for Crown lands adjacent to the lake.

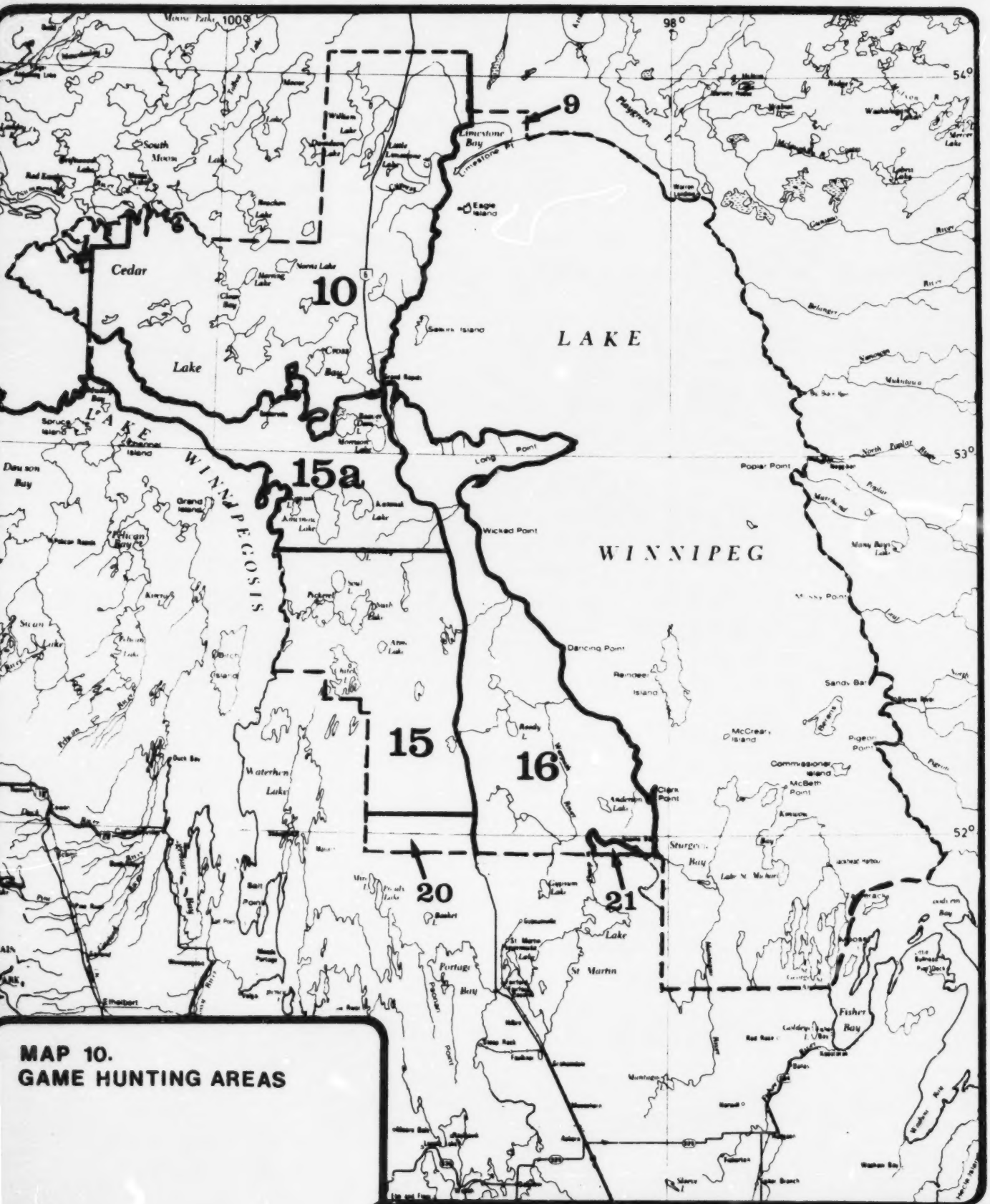
2.2.9. Wildlife

The North Interlake Plan Area contains large amounts of moderate to very good quality habitat which supports a wide variety of wildlife. Accurate population surveys are not available for most species. However, winter age-sex surveys have been conducted for some major game species such as moose. From these data relative population numbers have been extrapolated. Discussion of wildlife populations and habitat is facilitated by reference to the portions of six Game Hunting Areas (GHA) contained or partially contained within the plan area, i.e., 10, 15A, 15, 20, 16, 21 (Map 10).

The ridge and swale topography of the plan area coupled with extensive deciduous forest stands offers excellent potential as high quality moose habitat. Carrying capacity of these sites is largely dependent upon the age class of the forest. Fire suppression has resulted in many prime habitat stands declining in value due to overmaturity. Areas of known moose concentration are shown on Map 11.

Age-sex aerial surveys indicate there is an estimated population of approximately 700-900 moose in the plan area. This estimate is considered to be far below the area's potential carrying capacity regardless of the fire suppression problems. The apparent reason for low populations is over-harvest by non-sport hunters. Local populations have been depleted to such an extent that sport seasons have been closed in GHA 16 for 9 seasons and in GHA 20 for 3 seasons. In spite of these closures there is no apparent increase in populations.

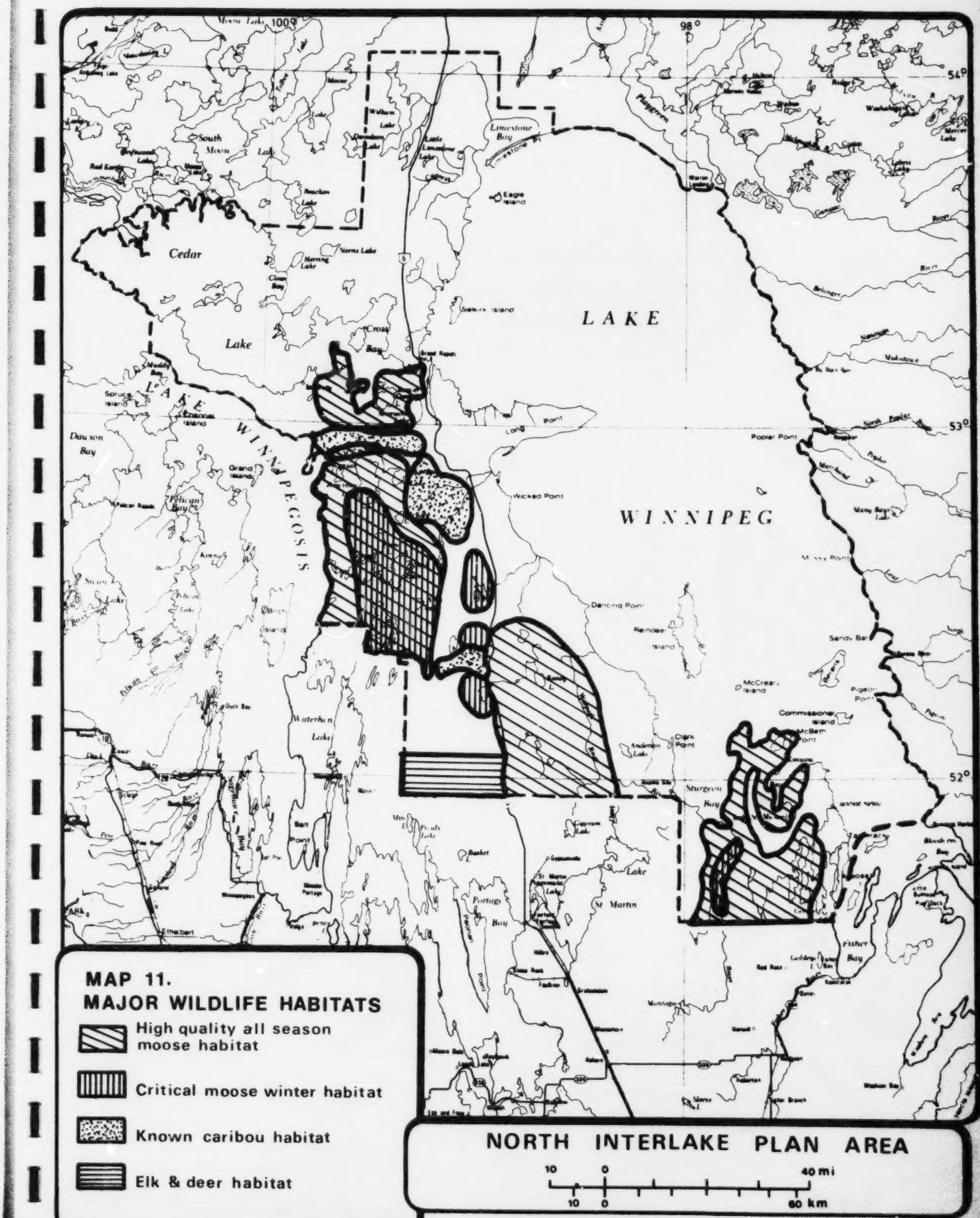
A remnant native herd of approximately 100 elk frequent a portion of the plan area (Map 11). Elk are dependent upon a mixture of deciduous forests and open grass or forage areas such as the peripheral agricultural zones found in the southern portion of the plan area within GHA 20. Much of the plan area is therefore of limited value to elk. As with the moose habitat, elk are dependent upon fire to regenerate browse stands. Continued suppression of fires in the area will eventually result in a decline in the carrying capacity of elk habitat.



MAP 10.
GAME HUNTING AREAS

NORTH INTERLAKE PLAN AREA

10 0 40 mi
10 0 60 km



MAP 11.
MAJOR WILDLIFE HABITATS

- High quality all season moose habitat
- Critical moose winter habitat
- Known caribou habitat
- Elk & deer habitat

NORTH INTERLAKE PLAN AREA

10 0 40 mi
10 0 60 km

White-tailed deer are found throughout the plan area, though largely concentrated in the southern portion (Map 11). As with elk, this species is dependent upon regenerating aspen forests and small forage clearings associated with agriculture. Climate and soil quality limit the potential for larger populations of deer in the northern portion of the plan area. Little data is available to estimate deer populations. It is assumed that populations are extremely variable as winter climate has significant effects on deer in this area.

Within the northern portion of the plan area there are a number of sites known to be frequented by woodland caribou (Map 11). A population of 75-100 animals inhabits the existing habitat. Although dispersed throughout the area during the summer these animals tend to winter in the vicinities of Katimak Lake and Limestone Bay. Preferred habitat appears to be areas of mature spruce stands intermixed with string bogs. Suppression of fires in these areas is critical to the maintenance of this herd. The islands on Kawinaw Lake are known calving sites. It is likely there are other calving sites, yet to be identified.

The plan area supports a wide variety of furbearers. Available trapping data suggests that the most important species are beaver, coyote, fox, lynx, muskrat and red squirrel. Habitat preference for these species is as diverse as the plan area itself. Alterations to any portion of the natural environment will, in almost all cases, have a negative impact on furbearers.

A project has been initiated jointly by the Manitoba Government and the Government of Canada to re-introduce wood bison to the area east and north of Skownan. This project is also aimed at providing local economic opportunity. Surplus animals, kept within an enclosure, will be made available for commercial uses including live sale to interested parties and meat packing. Management of these activities will be the responsibility of the local community.

To maintain an adequate unencumbered land base for the project a temporary reservation has been placed on the following:

Range 12W Twp. 34, 35, 36, 37
Range 13W Twp. 34, 35, 36, 37
Range 14W Twp. 34, 35, 36, 37

Non-game species and their habitats within the plan area are summarized below:

a) Kawinaw Lake contains the largest ring-billed gull colony in the Province as well a large white pelican colony. The lake also contains breeding habitat for herons, two other gull species and common terns as well as many species of waterfowl. The lake provides unique habitat. It is 18 km long, 8 km wide and 2 m deep at maximum with no outlet, no game fish and a high salt content.

b) Bald eagles nest in many parts of the area, especially near the mouths of rivers and streams entering Lake Winnipeg.

c) Probably the most sensitive area to human development within the plan area is Long Point. Any development which traverses the point would seriously impact the rest of the point as habitat for large wildlife species, (lynx, fisher, sandhill crane, Canada geese, moose, woodland caribou, black bear). Drainage disruptions would be detrimental to the continued existence of fens, bogs, and ancient cedar stands.

A number of user groups rely heavily upon wildlife for various reasons.

The most are:

1. Sustenance Users

Native residents of the plan area and adjacent reserves make extensive use of the big game resource, primarily moose, for sustenance. Annual moose harvest within the plan area is estimated at minimum to be 200 moose by ten communiites (reserves). These are Chemawawin (Easterville), Grand Rapids, Waterhen (Skownan), Fairford, Dauphin River, Little Saskatchewan, Lake St. Martin, Jackhead, Fisher River and Peguis. This substantial harvest has precluded allocation of the moose resource to other users in a major portion of the plan area (GHA 16 & 20). Treaty Indian harvest of caribou and elk in the area is less significant with less than 10 animals of either species taken annually.

Skownan Moose Management Group - A committee, comprised of representatives of Department of Natural Resources (Wildlife Branch and Regional Services Branch), Waterhen Indian Band, and the local communities of Waterhen/Mallard, has been formed to manage the depleted moose resource in GHA 20. The committee deals with all facets of moose management including allocation of the moose resource. A portion of the area under this group's jurisdiction lies within the plan area (that portion of GHA 20).

2. Trappers

Trapping occurs throughout the plan area. Portions of the area in the extreme south are in the Open Trapping Area. Registered Trapline Districts exist where any community member may trap and Registered Traplines exist which are assigned to specific trappers. For these reasons it is difficult to calculate total numbers of trappers or fur values for the plan area. An estimate for the 1980/81 season was a total of $334,000 worth of fur produced by 342 trappers.

3. Commercial Lodges and Outfitters

Three operators within the plan area rely heavily on wildlife resources (primarily moose). These operators are issued approximately 40 non-resident of Canada moose licences to operate within GHA 10 and 15, portions of which lie in the plan area. These licences likely generate up to $60,000 to the local area.

4. Resident Sport Hunters

The most popular species for resident sport hunting in the plan area is moose. An average of 300-400 hunters utilize the opportunity to hunt moose within the portions of GHA's 10, 15, 15A and 21 that lie within the plan area. Average annual moose harvest by this group ranges from 30-60 animals. Deer are also hunted in the southern portions of the area but the number of hunters is quite low.

Specific concerns and issues related to wildlife are:

1) to protect the critical lichen growth, upon which caribou are dependent, fire should be immediately suppressed in areas of caribou habitat for, once destroyed, it often takes many decades to re-establish. Fire is becoming more and more of a concern as development restricts and destroys portions of prime habitat leaving little or no surplus.

2) nest sites of bald eagles, ospreys and great blue herons exist in a number of locations throughout the plan area. These should be protected.

General concerns and issues related to wildlife are:

1) increased human activity, particularly access development and its impact on wildlife populations.

2) loss of wildlife habitat and the resultant reduction in wildlife populations.

3) welfare of significant wildlife species: moose, elk, woodland caribou, furbearers, bald eagles, ospreys and colonial nesting birds.

4) wildfire: both presence of and suppression of fire will have significant impacts on wildlife populations.

DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

3.1. Access

All-weather road access in the plan area is limited (Map 7). Major access is obtained via PTH 6 which traverses the plan area in the north-south direction. PTH 6 is also the major road link between Winnipeg/southern Manitoba and northern communities such as Grand Rapids and Thompson. Traffic is primarily of a non-stop type. No rail lines enter the plan area.

Road access is also provided by Provincial Roads 224, 327 and 513. These PR's relate to Jackhead Harbour,[1] Easterville and Anama Bay.[2] An unnumbered road provides access to the southwest portion of Long Point. Total length of all-weather roads within the plan area approximates 400 km. There are also a limited number of trails which provide seasonal access primarily to off-road vehicles.

The limited road access has imposed a constraint on development. It has also brought about the establishment of pockets of development where roads have provided access to recreation and other resources such as the Saint Lakes area and to commercial fisheries of Lake Winnipeg. Present road access to Lake Winnipeg is restricted to Grand Rapids,[1] Long Point, Anama Bay[2] and the Jackhead Harbour[1] area. Development will continue to be constrained until such time as an overall road network is developed. In the interim it is expected that pockets of development will continue to be created in association with road development. In most cases such development can be expected to relate to recreation. However, if moderate to high capability agricultural land is accessed by road then agricultural development may also occur. Similar development is likely to occur relative to the forest resources.

---

[1] Excluded from the plan area

[2] Not included in the plan area

3.2. Tourism

The plan area appears to receive a lot of "travel-through" tourist traffic but not a "fair share" of long duration tourist business. Grand Rapids[1] and Anama Bay[2] are significant tourist destinations and the centers of existing tourist developments. Tourist use has increased with improved access.

Angling is a major tourist opportunity which has been partially developed in the plan area. Present use centers on Cross Bay and Anama Bay. Additional development is dependent upon additional infrastructure to service the tourist industry. Central to development is the need for roads and accommodation.

---

[1] Excluded from the plan area

[2] Not included in the plan area

RESOURCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goals and objectives of this plan have been developed with regard to the problems and potentials of the North Interlake Plan Area. They provided guidance to the planning team when it was developing the land use/ resource management guidelines, zonation and overall plan approach.

4.1. Crown Lands

4.1.1. Goal: organized and rational management and administration of Crown land and wild rice resources.

4.1.2. Objectives:

1. satisfaction of demands for Crown land use within an organized plan framework.
2. development of areas to be utilized in accordance with their capacity.
3. disposition of requests for use of Crown land by the public in accordance with the plan.
4. effective utilization of the existing and potential wild rice resource.

4.2. Ecological Reserves

4.2.1. Goal: protection of the existing Ecological Reserve for scientific study and research and identification and designation of other areas worthy of Ecological Reserve status.

4.2.2. Objectives:

1. administration of Reindeer Island Ecological Reserve and future Ecological Reserves according to the Ecological Reserves Act and Regulations.
2. identification of potential Ecological Reserves, their review by the Ecological Reserves Advisory Committee and designation by Order-in-Council of those areas deemed to be worthy of Ecological Reserve status.

4.3. Fisheries

4.3.1. Goal: fish are a renewable and replenishable Crown resource and the goal of fisheries management is the optimization of long-term benefits to Manitobans from the resource and maintenance of the resource base in at least its present state.

4.3.2. Objectives:

1. ensure that sufficient resource base is available to support subsistence fisheries where appropriate.

2. provision of a variety of types and amounts of angling opportunities for Manitobans, specifically local residents.

3. ensure that present levels of commercial activities (net fishing and commercial angling) are maintained and provide the opportunity for expansion where possible.

4. allocation of the fishery resource in such a manner so as to reflect costs as well as benefits, supply/demand factors and priority of use as established in policy.

5. application of guidelines and other protective measures so as to ensure that all important habitat areas are protected and maintained.

6. mitigation of the impacts of other land use practices and development activities on the resource base.

4.4. Forestry

4.4.1. Goal: full commercial utilization of economically harvestable wood resources.

4.4.2. Objectives:

1. sustaining the integrity of the forest land base and maintaining the forest resource in a healthy and productive state by protecting the most significant and critical areas for future consideration for designation as Provincial Forests.

2. encouragement of responsible use and husbandry of the forest resource to obtain maximum achievable net benefits, including employment and recreation opportunities to the public, by multiple or sequential use practices.

3. assistance in the creation and sustenance of self-supporting industries by providing appropriate tenure and access to a forest resource managed under sustained yield practices.

4. establishment and maintainance of consistent and efficient procedures for the regulation, protection and management of the forest resource.

4.5. Parks

4.5.1. Goal: preservation and maintenance of outstanding natural resources and opportunities for outdoor recreation.

4.5.2. Objectives:

1. identification of areas that have significant potential for outdoor recreation.

2. development of outdoor recreation areas as provincial parks when required to serve recreational needs of the plan area.

3. development of guidelines that will ensure the maintenance of non-park areas of recreation significance until these areas are needed for provincial park development.

4.6. Outdoor Recreation

4.6.1. Goal: protection, management and use of outdoor recreation opportunities in relation to their capacity for use and to meet present and future outdoor recreation demands.

4.6.2. Objectives:

1. identification and protection of all important outdoor recreation opportunities required to meet present and future demand.

2. ensuring that the use of outdoor recreation opportunities does not exceed their capacity.

3. minimization of conflicts between other resource users and maximization of benefits by reviewing resource management plans which might affect outdoor recreation resources.

4. recognition of the recreation potential of the Lake Winnipeg waterway, associated islands and Lake Winnipegosis shoreline within the plan area.

5. improvement of access to outdoor recreation opportunities as a way to increase development and use.

6. increasing the variety and choice of outdoor recreation opportunities in the area.

7. ensuring that existing economic benefits to local communities arising from resource oriented outdoor recreation are maintained or improved.

4.7. Significant Natural and Cultural Features

4.7.1. Goal: to ensure the preservation of significant natural and cultural features and the availability of associated outdoor recreation opportunities.

4.7.2. Objectives:

1. identification of significant natural and cultural features.

2. development of guidelines to ensure preservation of these features.

3. identification and maintenance of buffers around areas containing significant natural or cultural features.

4.8. Water Resources

4.8.1. Goal: to protect land adjacent to Lake Winnipeg and Cedar Lake for use associated with water storage for hydro-electric power generation.

4.8.2. Objectives:

1. administration of the Lake Winnipeg Water Power Storage Reserve as per the Water Power Act and Regulations.

2. administration of land adjacent to Cedar Lake as per the Grand Rapids Water Power Licence.

3. review of proposed uses of Crown land adjacent to Lake Winnipeg and Cedar Lake and approval of uses appropriate to these areas.

4.9. Wildlife

4.9.1. Goal: to maintain the existence of all present wildlife species at population levels that will not only guarantee their on-going existence but also, where applicable, at a level that will allow a harvestable surplus that will be allocated in the following order of priority:

1. Treaty Indian sustenance requirements

2. Commercial fur harvest

3. Resident (Manitoba) recreation

4. Non-resident (Non-Manitoba) recreation

4.9.2. Objectives:

1. identification and productivity maintenance of key habitat areas and where necessary their protection by Order-in-Council.

2. provision of planning recommendations to various agencies in order to mitigate or at least minimize disturbance of high quality habitat. Of particular concern in any development area are critical sites, e.g., nests, dens, etc. and sightings of rare species, e.g., cougar.

3. protection of nesting sites of endangered raptors and other rare or endangered birds, e.g., bald eagles, ospreys and great blue herons.

4. protection of habitat in big game concentration areas to ensure sustained carrying capacity.

5. involvement of user groups (primarily native users) in wildlife planning e.g., moose management.

LAND USE AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

These sections form the core of the plan. They are the sections in which land use and resource management issues have been reconciled as far as possible at the overview plan level. The foundation for more detailed planning in areas where there is an imminent need is laid and guidelines for ongoing decision making in other areas are provided.

5.1. General Land Use/Resource Management Guidelines

The following general guidelines apply in all zones unless zone guidelines differ in which case zone guidelines take precedence.

5.1.1. Conflict Resolution

In the event that conflicts arise relative to the use of land, water or resources the following procedure will be implemented:

a) Conflict description, positions and pertinent data will be forwarded to the Resource Allocation and Planning Branch for review and mediation.

b) Conflicts not resolved by mediation will, with all pertinent information, be forwarded by the Resource Allocation and Planning Branch to the departmental executive for resolution.

5.1.2. Access

Road access in the plan area is a major concern. All-weather and seasonal roads for resource management are required in some zones. However, they must be located to provide for efficient transportation and to minimize environmental impacts. This is particularly true relative to recreation areas and big game habitat. A suggested road corridor for forest harvesting is shown on Map 12. Identification of a final corridor and right-of-way will be a co-operative activity between branches of this department and should be a joint activity between all interested government departments and agencies including this department. Natural Resources shall be a strong advocate for the implementation of stream crossing and other departmentally approved guidelines.

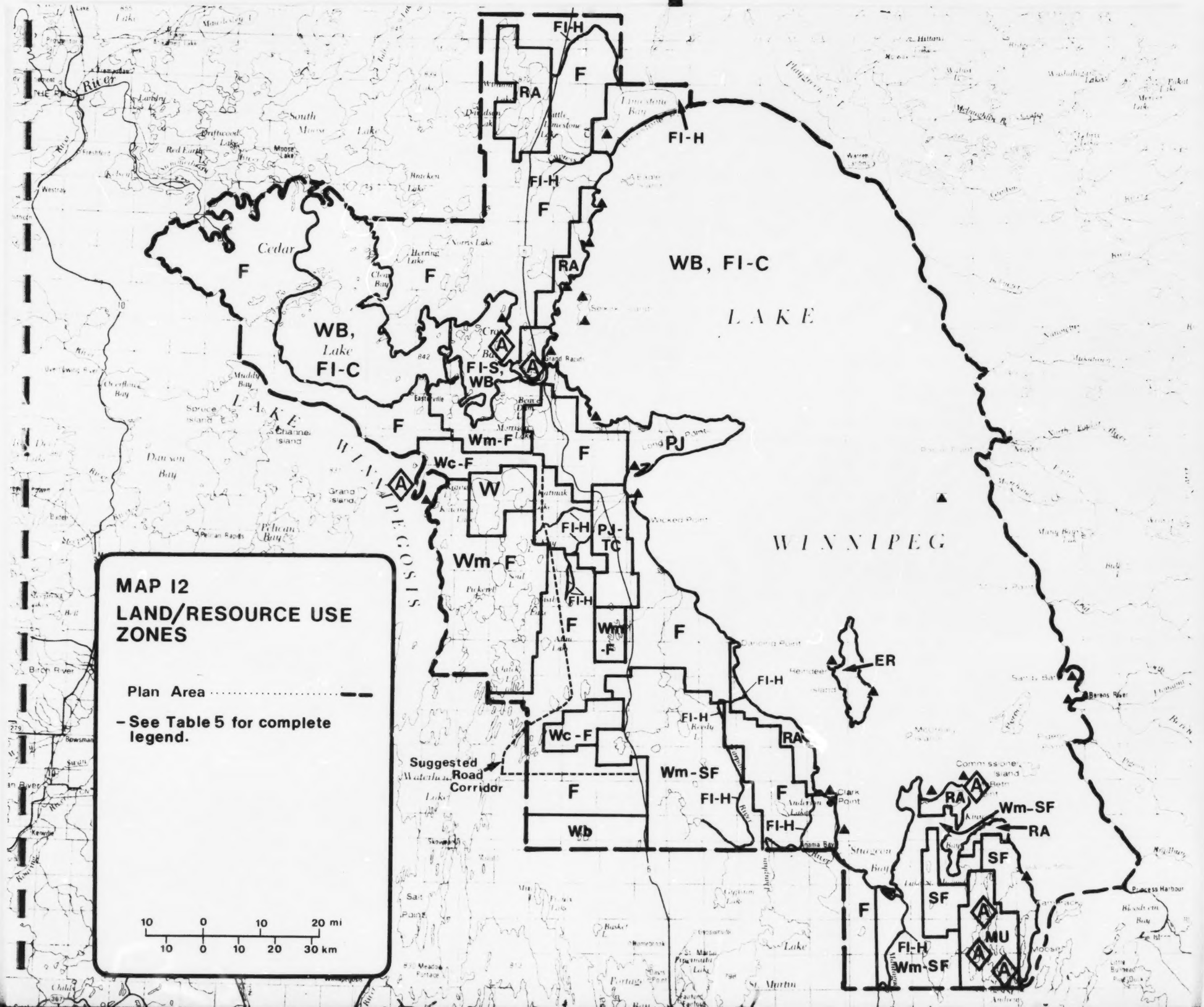

MAP 12
LAND/RESOURCE USE ZONES
Plan Area
– See Table 5 for complete legend.
10 0 10 20 mi
10 0 10 20 30 km
WB, FI-C
LAKE
WINNIPEGOSIS
LAKE
WINNIPEG
WB, Lake FI-C
FI-S, WB
Wm-F
Wc-F
W
FI-H
PJ-TC
RA
F
ER
Wm-SF
Wb
Suggested Road Corridor
PJ
SF
MU
Cedar
Dawson Bay
Spruce Island
Channel Island
Grand Island
Pelican Rapids
Pelican Bay
Moose Lake
Red Earth
Bracken Lake
Herring Lake
Norris Lake
Reedy Lake
Anderson Lake
Clark Point
Sturgeon Bay
Anama Bay
Princess Harbour
Bloodvein Bay
Commissioner Island
Meadow Portage
St. Martin
Manigotagan
Bowsman
Kenville
Birch River
Berens River
Poplarfield
Waterhen
Skownan
Salt Point
Basket
Hommeny
Crossroads
Portage Point
Gemmell
Sandy Bay
Hutton
Limestone Bay
Little Limestone Lake
Davidson Lake
Wintering Lake
Muddy Bay
Cheecham Bay
Eastville
Beaver Dam Lake
Morrison Lake
Long Point
Katmak Lake
Buckeye Point
Mary Berry Lake
Wekusko Lake
Wekusko River
Manasan River
Mistik Lake
Mistik Creek
Mistik Bay
Mistik Point
Mistik Lake
Mistik Creek
Mistik Bay
Mistik Point

Table 5. Legend for Map 12

A - Resource Access Areas

ER - Ecological Reserves

FI- C - Commercial Net Fishing Zone

FI- H - Fish Habitat Zone

FI- S - Sport Angling Zone

F - Integrated Forest Industrial Use Zone - Forestry Major Use

SF - Integrated Forest Industrial Use Zone - Forestry Major Use By O/C Designation

MU - Mixed Use Area

PJ - Project Area

RA - Recreation Areas

WB - Major Water Body

Wb - Wood Bison Project Area

PJ-TC - Twin Creeks Agricultural Project

Wc- F - Caribou Habitat - Wildlife and Forestry Co-major Uses

Wm- F - Moose Habitat
Wildlife and Forestry Co-major Use

Wm-SF - Moose Habitat
Wildlife and Forestry Co-major Use in O/C Forestry Area

Significant Natural and Cultural Features Refer to Map 8

▲ Harbour

- - - Suggested Road Corridor

Rationale and land use guidelines as per plan text

5.1.3. Timber Harvesting

Timber harvesting operations will be as free of restrictions as possible. It is recognized that forestry operations have effects upon other resource users and there is a commitment through this plan for consultation by forestry interests with these other users and for other users to consult with forestry interests. The Resource Planning Committee (RPC) composed of Regional Staff, see Appendix II, provides an effective forum for departmental review.

5.1.4. Fire Prevention, Detection and Suppression

Fire management based upon prevention, detection and suppression is high priority throughout the plan area. Priorities are public safety, property, merchantible timber and other resources. Use of fire as a management tool is not precluded.

5.1.5. Water Power Storage Reserve and Water Power Licence Area (See Map 9)

The Water Power Storage Reserve and Licence Area place major restrictions upon development. As a result no proposed land use other than transient resource use, e.g., timber harvesting, trapping, hunting, picnicking, etc., and no Crown land sales or leasing may take place within these areas without the approval of the Water Resources Branch.[1] This requires that all projects be submitted to the Director, Water Resources Branch for review and approval prior to implementation. Where necessary, the removal of the appropriate land from the Water Power Storage Reserve or Licence area will be undertaken by Water Resources Branch.

5.1.6. Tourism Developments

Present location of tourist lodges and other types of tourist accommodation are documented in Section 2.2.3., Map 2. In order to help maintain an economically viable tourist industry and associated investments Crown land and resource management will give careful consideration to the ongoing requirements

[1] Annual agricultural use is also an exception.

for land, resource and buffer areas relative to existing operations. Proposed new developments will be reviewed through the established Resource Allocation Working Group procedures. This plan will guide decisions within the plan area.

5.1.7. Remote and Isolated Dwellings

Lands Branch policy directives respecting remote and isolated dwellings apply.

5.2. Land Use Zones

Seventeen types of land use/resource management zones have been delineated to identify contiguous land/water areas where a group or related land use and/or resource management guidelines apply (Map 12).

5.2.1. Integrated Forest Industrial Use Zone: SF, F

a) Rationale

Significant portions of the plan area are important relative to valuable industrial uses such as timber harvesting. These sites are important for present and future economic development of the plan area. They have been designated as integrated forest industrial use zones to facilitate a wide variety of uses in space and time with emphasis on industrial uses.

b) Land/Resource Use Guidelines

1. These are high intensity resource harvesting/extraction zones. Industrial uses of renewable and non-renewable resources are encouraged.
2. Other resource uses are also appropriate within these zones and will be buffered as far as is reasonable from industrial uses.
3. A variety of management plans will be prepared by various branches over time to direct and facilitate uses of these zones. Plans prepared at regional level will be reviewed through the Resource Planning Committee; plans prepared at Head Office will be reviewed by the Resource Allocation Working Group.

5.2.2. Caribou Habitat: Wc-F

a) Rationale

These zones contain habitat critical to continued existence of woodland

caribou. One of the key elements is lichen found in bog areas.

b) Land/Resource Use Guidelines

1. Low intensity land uses are appropriate to these zones. Such include, but are not restricted to, wildlands recreation, hunting, trapping, wild rice harvesting, bait fishing.
2. High intensity land uses such as cottage subdivisions, timber harvesting and all-weather road access are generally inappropriate to these zones. High intensity use requests will be reviewed by regional staff on a case specific basis e.g., suggested road corridor for forest harvesting.
3. String bog areas will not be logged. Areas immediately peripheral to string bogs which are important to caribou are inappropriate for timber harvesting. These will be identified by Wildlife Branch prior to or during consultation identified below. Timber harvesting may be appropriate on upland sites. Such operations must receive pre-clearance as described below.
4. Timber harvesting plans and plans for the proposed forestry road shall be developed by Forestry Branch through regional level consultation with Wildlife and other concerned branches (Fisheries, Resource Allocation and Planning, Parks). No timber harvesting or road construction is to occur until issues raised by concerned branches are resolved.

5.2.3. Significant Wildlife Areas: W

a) Rationale

Islands in Kawinaw Lake provide naturally protected calving sites for woodland caribou, thus protecting the caribou from predators and from human disturbance. Protected calving sites are critical to caribou herd maintenance. Kawinaw Lake, Katimik Lake and adjacent areas are also highly productive of a wide variety of wildlife such as waterfowl, shorebirds and colonial nesting birds hence their designation as a significant wildlife area.

b) Land/Resource Use Guidelines

1. Only limited, low intensity uses such as nature study, camping and biological research are appropriate to the Kawinaw/Katimik Lakes area.
2. Development proposals for this zone must be reviewed by regional staff on a case specific basis. Wildlife Branch concerns are particularly pertinent to this review. The Resource Planning Committee provides an appropriate review forum.

5.2.4. Moose Habitat: Wm-F, WM-SF

a) Rationale

These zones are quality habitat which support local moose populations. They consist mainly of young forests providing large amounts of high quality browse.

b) Land/Resource Use Guidelines

1. Low intensity uses are appropriate to these zones. Such uses include, but are not restricted to, wildlands recreation, hunting, trapping, wild rice harvesting and bait fishing.
2. Timber harvesting is appropriate to these zones under the following conditions:
   a) Stands which are of young and/or intermediate age (cutting Class 1 or 2) are valuable habitat for moose and are normally not harvested, but may have management procedures carried out that will enhance both forestry and moose habitat. Such procedures will be developed by joint consultation between forestry and wildlife staff.
   b) Timber access roads and trails should avoid stands designated as cutting Class 1 and 2 and non-merchantable species e.g., willow/alder, meadow.

c) Stands of non-merchantable species should be avoided during timber harvesting and other industrial activities unless activity in such stands is absolutely necessary.

3. Access to these zones by seasonal or all-weather road should be minimized in an effort to avoid over harvesting of moose. Wildlife Branch shall be consulted in the site planning stage for road development. All roads should be rendered impassible when no longer needed for timber harvesting and related activities.

5.2.5. Major Water Bodies: WB

a) Rationale

Lake Winnipeg and Cedar Lake are major water bodies within the plan area and have significant potential for both sport and commercial angling, commercial net fishing and water use activities. Islands and reefs in both lakes are associated with important fish spawning habitat and have wildlife potential, especially for colonial nesting birds.

b) Land/Resource Use Guidelines

1. Islands and reefs will be protected from intensive resource harvesting activities and from land disposition in recognition of their recreational value for the boating public and their value as fish and wildlife habitat.
2. Mainland and island harbours will be protected for use by the boating public. Commercial development will be restricted to mainland harbours with island harbours left undeveloped. Commercial fish stations are, however, appropriate uses of island harbours.
3. Mainland shorelines will be left undeveloped except in areas of significant potential for intensive recreational use.
4. Intensive resource harvesting and management on mainland shores should not occur closer than 150m to the normal high water level of each lake.
5. Resource Allocation and Planning Branch will be consulted regarding development of shorelands.

5.2.6. Fish Habitat Zone: FI-H

a) Rationale

This zoning concept deals with habitat protection and enhancement and with fish culture. Although some regions of the plan area have experienced a greater loss of habitat than others, the concerns for this situation are consistent for the entire plan area. Areas critical to the fish resource, i.e., lakes, rivers and streams and associated shoreline areas and areas important to fish culture activities, require recognition.

b) Land/Resource Use Guidelines

1. Land/resource development to the water's edge of streams, creeks and lakes shall be prohibited. A buffer strip of natural vegetation of between 30 and 90 meters wide (to be determined in consultation with Fisheries Branch) shall be maintained to protect spawning and nursery areas. Development or maintenance of appropriate vegetative cover to prevent erosion, siltation and to reduce run-off shall be encouraged.
2. Enrichment of natural waters (organic loading and/or siltation) due to land/resource development activities and associated run-off, shall be discouraged.
3. River and stream crossings associated with road development should be constructed with reference to the Department of Natural Resources stream crossing guidelines[1] to minimize damage to fish and fish habitat.
4. Limestone Bay will continue to be closed to commercial net fishing. Land adjacent to Limestone Bay will be maintained in its natural state. No development or timber harvesting will be permitted within 150m of the shoreline of Limestone Bay or that portion of Lake Winnipeg as indicated on Map 12 as FI-H.

---

[1] Province of Manitoba, 1980. Recommended Fish Protection Procedures for Stream Crossings in Manitoba. Fisheries Branch, Department of Natural Resources

Developments, such as timber harvesting or road construction proposed for areas more than 150m but less than 2000m from shorelines of Limestone Bay or that portion of Lake Winnipeg as indicated on Map 12 as FI-H shall be reviewed by Fisheries Branch.

5.2.7. Commercial Net Fishing Zone: FI-C

a) Rationale

In many areas, commercial net fishing is a major economic activity and leading employer. In these areas the dominant activity on specified water bodies is commercial net fishing and a major portion of the fisheries resource is allocated to that use.

b) Land/Resource Use Guidelines

1. Land use activities adjacent to these zoned waters will be compatible with the commercial net fishery. Intensive developments will be directed to areas not significant to the operation and maintenance of the fishery.
2. Land/resource use activities that adversely affect habitat critical to the fishery will be prohibited. Shoreline developments will only be permitted in consultation with Fisheries Branch.
3. Improved infrastructure and access will be encouraged and designed to benefit the fishery and other land/resource uses.

5.2.8. Sport Angling Zone: FI-S

a) Rationale

Sport angling is a provincially important activity that is a major employer and contributes significantly to the economic structure of an area. As such, Cross Bay of Cedar Lake has been identified as being important to resident angling and commercial sport angling.

b) Land/Resource Use Guidelines

1. Land use activities adjacent to this zone will be compatible with the zoned use. Intensive developments will be restricted to those which are highly significant to the province or local residents.
2. Shorelines within this zone will remain in their natural condition. Shoreline destabilization activities will not be permitted within 150m of the shoreline without approval of Fisheries Branch.
3. Improved surface access to the fisheries will be provided only in situations that will benefit the fishery economically or which provide additional angling opportunities in areas where demand exceeds supply.
4. This zone will remain allocated to sport fishing; commercial net fishing will continue to be restricted.

5.2.9. Recreation Areas: RA

a) Rationale

These areas provide or are capable of providing a variety of high quality shoreland and water oriented recreation experiences, including intensive recreational use, on Lake Winnipeg and on some inland lakes. Segments of shorelines and backshore areas have been grouped to form substantive zones.

b) Land/Resource Use Guidelines

1. High intensity recreation uses such as cottaging are appropriate to these areas but will be developed in a rigorous manner in order to maintain the quality of the environment and to avoid over development. Detailed planning of each area must preceed its development. These plans require approval of the Resource Allocation Working Group.
2. Resource harvesting and utilization is appropriate but must not harm or degrade existing development or the potential for recreation development and should strive to enhance that development or potential.
3. Development priority should focus on existing recreation use areas.
4. Resource Allocation and Planning Branch will be consulted regarding development of recreation areas.

5.2.10. Mixed Used Areas: MU

a) Rationale

The area is significant from the perspectives of forestry, outdoor recreation and wildlife. It is road accessible, contains stands of harvestable timber, lakes and landforms with significant recreation potential and important wildlife habitats.

b) Land/Resource Use Guidelines

1. Timber management should be conducted in such a way as to minimize impact upon recreation opportunities and wildlife.
2. Shorelines of the Saint Lakes should be protected from timber harvesting in order to maintain their aesthetic appeal.
3. Areas not protected from timber harvesting will be managed as per the guidelines for moose habitat found in 5.2.4.
4. Inter-branch co-ordination shall be undertaken by the Resource Planning Committee

5.2.11. Significant Natural and Cultural Features - As Shown on Map 8, pg. 31

a) Rationale

A number of specific sites in the plan area exhibit rare or unique features of biological, geological, cultural or other interest. These sites must be protected.

b) Land/Resource Use Guidelines

1. Sites are intended to remain in their natural state. Developments and improved access may be prohibited. Requests for resource extraction and improved access will be reviewed by regional staff on a case specific basis.
2. A buffer area of a size dependent on the size and nature of the site, and not less than 150m wide, shall be placed around these sites. Low intensity, temporary land uses shall be permitted in the buffer zone.

3. Regional staff is responsible for buffering the sites.

5.2.12. Ecological Reserves: ER

a) Rationale

Reindeer Island has been designated an Ecological Reserve under the Ecological Reserves Act.

b) Land/Resource Use Guidelines

1. Reindeer Island shall be managed in accordance with the Ecological Reserves Act and Regulations made under that act. As a result no development will be permitted on Reindeer Island except in the Johnson Harbour area as provided by Order-in-Council 597/76.

5.2.13. Resource Access Areas: A

a) Rationale

This code denotes land corridors or areas which provide access to resources. Included are such areas as anchorages and resource/recreation roads. Roads to access areas are not a prerequisite for access area designation. Roads administered by the Department of Highways and Transportation are excluded.

b) Land/Resource Use Guidelines

1. Access roads and areas will be managed according to Departmental resource plans.
2. The Department will review and approve or reject private resource/recreation road applications and developments.
3. No new roads will be constructed within 500m of any shoreline without review and approval by the Department.
4. Resource extraction roads will not normally be maintained after resource harvesting activities have finished. In areas where resource use conflicts may exist, resource roads may be rendered impassible or closed.

5. Road design and construction practices will adhere to the Department of Natural Resources stream crossing guidelines. ("Recommended Fish Protection Procedures for Stream Crossings in Manitoba").

5.2.14. Project Areas: PJ

a) Rationale

Long Point contains fragile environments and areas of high capability for a variety of low intensity recreation activities such as nature study, photography, sketching, etc. It is noted for its colonial nesting bird colonies, natural cedar stand and variety of land forms. Due to the fragility of its ecosystems and its recreation potential Long Point should be planned in detail before development, additional access or intensive resource utilization is undertaken.

b) Terms of Reference

1. The project area includes Long Point and adjacent mainland as shown on Map 12.
2. Major concern in the area is the need to establish land use guidelines which recognize the significance of fragile ecosystems, wildlife values and recreational potential.
3. The objective is to prepare a detailed plan for the area over a period of 18 months from approval date of this plan.
4. Planning is to be undertaken by regional staff or by Head Office Branch staff designated to function in a regional capacity relative to this project. This group constitutes the Resource Planning Committee (RPC).
5. Until the operational plan is completed the following land use/resource guideline applies:

no new development, land disposition, road construction or timber harvesting is to occur. Notwithstanding this guideline, decisions impacting existing operations, community enterprises and community services will be rendered in sixty (60) days.

6. Upon approval of the detailed plan by the Resource Allocation Working Group land/resources will be managed/administered in accordance with the plan.

5.2.15. Twin Creeks Agriculture Project: PJ-TC

a) Rationale

A study of the agricultural potential of the Twin Creeks area has been undertaken by the Indian Agricultural Committee, the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Agriculture.

b) Terms of Reference

1. Target date for completion of the Twin Creeks Agricultural Study is in the near future.
2. No development or land disposition shall take place in the project area until completion of the current study.
3. Review of the area and its classification shall be undertaken upon completion of the study. Re-classification of all or part of the area may be initiated as a result of this review.

5.2.16. Wood Bison Project Area: Wb

a) Rationale

A project aimed at re-introducing wood bison to Manitoba is underway. Economic benefits will accrue to the local native community. Central to project implementation is protection of significant habitat.

b) Terms of Reference

1. Development and land disposition in the project area shall be discussed with Wildlife Branch prior to development implementation or land disposition.

IMPLEMENTATION

The plan has been prepared with implementation clearly in mind. Many strategies for plan implementation have been incorporated into the Land Use and Resource Management sections, 5.1 and 5.2, pages 50 & 54. A thorough understanding of these sections and the land/resource use guidelines contained therein is necessary for effective plan implementation.

6.1. Approval and Review

Plan approval and approval of substantive amendments shall be by the Minister of Natural Resources (See Appendix I). The approved plan and amendments will be forwarded to interested departments/agencies for their information and comment.

The plan shall be reviewed upon request of the Minister, the Departmental Executive or the Resource Allocation Working Group. It shall also be reviewed 5 years after coming into effect or from the last major review, as the case may be.

The Resource Allocation Working Group is responsible for ensuring that the plan reviews are undertaken and that reviews and amendments are processed and implemented as per approved procedure.

6.2. Land/Resource Use Implementation

The land/resource use intent as described in the plan shall be carried out through day-to-day administrative procedures of the Department of Natural Resources. Where required by land/resource use guidelines or deemed appropriate by the Minister, Departmental Executive, Branches or the Resource Allocation Working Group, inter-branch discussions shall be undertaken to further integrate land/resource use. In the event of inter-branch conflict, general guideline 5.1.1. shall be employed.

Implementation may require the preparation of detailed plans especially for zones designated as project areas. This planning is primarily the responsibility of regional staff. Land use plans shall be prepared for the most part

by the Resource Planning Committee. This committee, its structure, responsibilities and general procedures are described in Appendix II. Resource management plans are prepared for the most part by line branches. These plans are subject to review by the Resource Planning Committee.

Plans prepared by the RPC must be consistent with and carry out the intent of this plan. Such plans shall be reviewed and approved by the Resource Allocation Working Group. If overview plan amendment is required prior to preparation or approval of a plan prepared by the RPC then the process described in Appendix I shall be followed with amendment of the overview plan preceeding approval of the RPC plan.

6.3. Land/Resource Use Administration

The use of Crown land and resources is administered through instruments such as licences, contracts, agreements, leases, permits, etc. issued by the Crown to individuals, corporations, etc. or by declaration of Orders-in-Council. The authority for the administration of Crown land and resources is contained in a variety of acts and regulations directly related to most branches of the department. Administration of land and resources must be in conformity with these acts, regulations and this plan.

SUMMARY

7.1. The plan describes various resource interests relating to the North Interlake Plan Area, an area of about 33,000 km^2. These interests have been related to the land base to develop an overview plan for land use, resource management and land administration for the first five-year period within a twenty-year time horizon.

7.2. The plan is dynamic and can be changed at any time. Major review and revision should be undertaken on a five-year cycle but always within a twenty-year time horizon.

7.3. Resource goals and objectives are described as they relate to the plan area.

7.4. General land use/resource management guidelines pertinent to the entire plan area are described to assist in use integration.

7.5. The plan area is zoned and land use/resource management guidelines developed to assist in use integration and to separate incompatible uses.

7.6. Those portions of the plan area requiring more detailed planning are identified and terms of reference for more detailed planning described.

7.7. The foundation for detailed planning by Resource Planning Committees is described for use in areas requiring such planning (Appendix II).

7.8. The process for plan amendment is described and shown in Appendix I.

APPENDICES

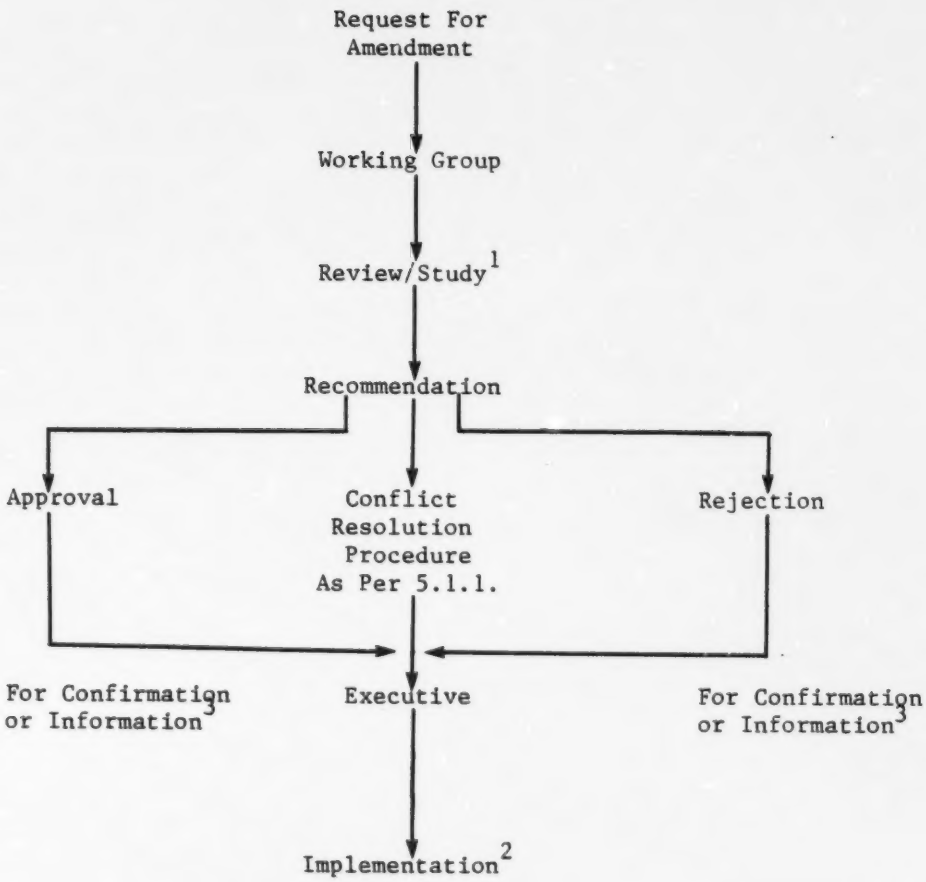
8.1. Appendix I. Plan Amendment and Review Process

Figure 1 shows the amending process. The process relative to amendments is similar to the initial approval process with the Resource Allocation Working Group (RAWG) having concerns with both content and form. In this case the RAWG may, at its review of the proposed amendment, approve, disapprove or refer the proposed amendment to a study group for further review and recommendation. A recommendation for approval by the study group may or may not include changes to the proposed amendment. General guideline 5.1.1. will be implemented when conflicts arise.

After each amendment has been approved the amendment and notification of approval will be forwarded to the appropriate Resource Planning Committee (RPC), other departments (via the Interdepartmental Planning Board) and other holders of the plan. The RPC will also be informed when an amendment to the plan is proposed.

Plan reviews may occur at any time dependent upon need. These reviews shall be of a thorough and comprehensive nature and follow an acceptable process. The document originating from each review will be treated as a new plan.

Figure 1. Amendment Process



1. RPC advised
2. RPC and agencies in possession of plan informed
3. The Executive-Minister shall be advised of minor, non-substantive amendments. Major and substantive amendments will be forwarded for approval.

8.2. Appendix II. Resource Planning Committee - Terms of Reference

8.2.1. Responsibilities, Composition and Roles

1. Resource Planning Committees (RPC's) are established within regions, as required by the Resource Allocation Working Group, to undertake integrated detailed land/resource planning and inter-branch field review of management plans.

   RPC's shall:

   a) Undertake planning of project areas[1] as directed by the Resource Allocation Working Group.
   b) Undertake planning of project areas where, in the opinion of the RPC's such planning is warranted and has been approved by the Resource Allocation Working Group.
   c) Review requests and plans for high intensity land uses and advise the Resource Allocation Working Group as to content of these plans and the results of the plan review.
   d) Review branch plans for management of resources in areas not designated to use by Order-in-Council, and advise the Resource Allocation Working Group as to content of these plans and the results of plan review.

2. Resource Planning Committees are composed of Regional Staff from each Branch of the Department, or Head Office staff designated to function in a regional capacity.

3. RPC's report to and receive direction from the Resource Allocation Working Group via the Working Group Chairman.

4. Land use plans prepared by RPC's are forwarded to the Resource Allocation Working Group for review and approval.

5. Agendas and minutes of RPC meetings are forwarded to the Resource Allocation Working Group Chairman for information.

8.2.2. Procedures

1. RPC's shall elect a chairman or co-chairmen who shall select a secretary.

2. The chairman/co-chairmen shall control and co-ordinate meetings relative to agenda, time and guests.

3. The secretary shall arrange meetings, prepare agendas, distribute agendas and background material, prepare and circulate minutes.

4. Decision making shall be by consensus. Votes shall be taken only to elect a chairman/co-chairmen and to establish that a conflict exists relative to other matters.

5. Conflicts shall be forwarded to the chairman of the Resource Allocation Working Group together with majority/minority reports. The Working Group shall resolve these conflicts.

---

[1] Project areas are defined as unallocated tracts of Crown land or lakes for which detailed plans are desired.

8.3. Appendix III. List of Abbreviations

RAWG - Resource Allocation Working Group. The head office planning committee of the Department of Natural Resources with representation from all Branch Directors

RPC - Resource Planning Committee. The regional (field) office planning committee of the Department of Natural Resources. RPC's function within the appropriate Natural Resources administrative region

IPB - Inter-departmental Planning Board. A committee of Deputy Ministers representing a variety of departments within the Manitoba Government

GHA - Game Hunting Area. Areas identified by the Wildlife Branch, Department of Natural Resources to facilitate administration of game hunting

FMU - Forest Management Unit

AAC - Annual Allowable Cut

8.4. Appendix IV. Crown Land Classification Committee Generaiized Coding for Crown Land Immediately South of the Plan Area

MAPS NOT

FILMED

CARTES

OMISES